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Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXIV, Issue No. 59

TUESDAY MARCH 25, 2014

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OPINION METER
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INSIDE

ASIA



A Chinese plane spots a white, square-shaped object in the Indian Ocean.

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A Ukrainian air force commander is being held by pro-Russian forces.

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Life in Motion

Option to ship Tinian solid waste to Saipan. **PAGE 3**
Senate sends law enforcement drug testing bill to Inos. **PAGE 4**

Cape Air flights to CNMI cancelled up to Mar. 29

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

All Cape Air flights from Guam to Saipan and Rota have been cancelled until March 29, following a "technical issue," according to a statement yesterday by United Airlines, which operates the flights.

» **'Technical issue' scuttle regular flights**

United Airlines spokeswoman Regine Lee said that United "has decided to operate an extra flight with a Boeing 737-800 aircraft every day until March 29 to make arrangements for the affected customers to complete their journeys."

She said the extra flight is scheduled to depart Guam daily at 7:30pm as flight UA1746 and set to arrive on Saipan at 8:10pm. Then, the flight will depart

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'December CW deadline too short to train new hires'

The Hotel Association in the Northern Mariana Islands is wary of the immediate impact on the Commonwealth's tourism industry if the federal government decides not to extend the contract worker program beyond this year.

HANMI president Nick Nishikawa described the program's December deadline as "too short" for hotels to prepare for the exodus of most of its employees.

See story on Page 5



NEWEST CUC BOARD MEMBER

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
Gov. Eloy S. Inos, left, administers the oath of office to Christopher A. Concepcion, second from left, to serve on the revived Commonwealth Utilities Corp. board of directors, while Concepcion's wife Natsu and other family members look on during a brief ceremony on Friday. The swearing in was done within minutes of the Senate's confirmation of Concepcion's appointment by a vote of 9-0.

Dangers in both quick, slow passage of casino amendment bill

» **Demapan to pre-file amendment bill as early as today**
» **Casino signature drive hangs in the balance**

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Senate Fiscal Affairs Committee chair Jovita Taimanao (Ind-Rota) set yesterday a March 31 to April 6 public hearing on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota on a yet-to-be

prefiled bill amending a controversial new law allowing casino gaming on Saipan to ensure "transparency." But House floor leader Ralph Demapan (Cov-Saipan) said yesterday that failure to amend

RELATED NEWS

► Chamber still rejects Saipan casino. **PAGE 2**

Public Law 18-38 immediately could set in motion the original timelines and problematic provisions that the public is worried about, including tax rebate and pen-
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PICKS OF THE WEEK

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Local

Chamber still rejects Saipan casino

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A Saipan Chamber of Commerce's recent poll of its members showed they still do not support casino gaming on Saipan, while at the same time questions a 100 percent tax rebate of the exclusive casino license holder's gross gaming revenue "when the overall true benefit" is already "exclusivity."

Chamber of Commerce president Alex Sablan, in a letter to Gov. Eloy S. Inos, said a recent poll of Chamber membership "clearly stipulates" their "continued position that they reject

casino gaming on Saipan, as has been proposed in current and past legislation." The Chamber asked the governor to veto the casino measure.

The Chamber's letter is dated March 19, two days before the governor signed House Bill 18-179 into Public Law 18-38.

But the governor said he signed the bill, with assurance from the House and Senate that they will amend the law immediately to address its problematic provisions, many of them pointed out by members of the public including the business community.

House floor leader Ralph Demapan (Cov-Saipan) said yes-

terday he will prefile the casino amendment bill as early as today.

There is no telling whether the Chamber's specific concerns will be addressed in the amendment bill.

Sablan, in his two-page letter to the governor, said HB 18-179 as worded makes it difficult to ascertain how each respective item will impact current gaming in the CNMI and tax benefits derived, by offering a "CNMI exclusive gaming license" under the CNMI lottery law.

"It begs the question why a CNMI exclusive gaming license would rebate 100 percent of the gaming tax provision when the overall true benefit is exclusivity. The potential tax benefit derived by gaming tax as well as all other taxes paid in without a tax abatement, could likely resolve not only the any retirement fund issues but also the shortage in funds for public health, safety, education and compensation that affect 'daily' the majority of taxpaying citizens and individuals of the CNMI," Sablan told the governor.

This is in addition to the Chamber's concern about the omission of the tax rebate language in HB 18-179, which became law Friday.

"We are deeply concerned that you are apparently satisfied with 'assurances' that a 'technical amendment' can be resolved

through subsequent legislation, but once you enact this bill into law, it will nullify this very important provision that again benefits individual and business taxpayers of the CNMI without any guarantee that such amendments will fully restore the rebate structure to its current form," Sablan said.

The Chamber president said the rebate provision of the Northern Mariana Islands Territorial Tax is too crucial an item to jeopardize with the passage of what was at the time HB 18-179, with only assurance of "technical amendments."

"This has been an investor

incentive that has helped build and sustain our economy and livelihood in good times and bad and should be zealously protected," Sablan added.

The governor said on Sunday said he wants the amendment bill to clearly restore the tax rebate.

In mid-2013, the Chamber also polled its members about an earlier Saipan casino legislation. Most of those who participated said they are still opposed to legalizing casino gaming on Saipan.

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce is the largest business organization in the CNMI with some 150 members.

AS JURY DELIBERATION ENTERS 4TH DAY

What Quichocho must prove in his counterclaim vs Kim

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The nine jurors again failed to reach a verdict yesterday, the third day of their deliberations in the ongoing jury trial in federal court of businesswoman Jung Ja Kim's racketeering lawsuit against attorney Ramon K. Quichocho, his wife Frances, his law firm, and their Karissa LLC company.

With still no verdict, U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona excused the jurors at 4:45pm and ordered them to resume deliberations at 8am today, Tuesday.

Kim asserts eight claims, including three counts of Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organization Act. The Quichochos, the law firm, and their company Tan Dingo LLC on the other hand, are countersuing Kim for five claims.

While the RICO claims are said to be the most complicated among the 13 claims and counterclaims, Ramon Quichocho and his law firm's claim for *quantum meruit* is also said to be difficult.

Ramon Quichocho and his law firm assert a claim against Kim for unpaid attorney's fees under the theory of *quantum meruit*.

Quantum meruit determines the amount to be paid for services when no contract exists or when there is doubt as to the amount due for the work performed but done under circumstances when payment could be expected.

Kim testified during trial that her then counsel, Ramon Quichocho, raped her twice in 2008 while she was on medication due to depression and anxiety. She also alleged that she, Ramon, and Frances twice had a threesome while she was drunk and under medication.

The Quichochos denied the allegations.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

MHS PTA meeting on Wednesday

All Marianas High School parents, guardians, and students are invited to attend the MHS PTA meeting this Wednesday, March 26, 2014, at 6:30pm in the MHS Dolphin Theatre. We will get an update on MHS administration, programs, and future events with reports from Student Council. (PR)

PTSA meeting today for all Kagman schools

Parents and guardians of students that attend Kagman schools will have a PTSA meeting today, March 25, 2014, from 6pm to 7pm at the Kagman Elementary School cafeteria. There will be special presentations by the KagES STUCO and the COVMS Music and Chamorro Clubs. For more information, call the KHS Main Office at 237-3840 or email the PTSAs at kagmanptsa@cnmipss.org. (PR)



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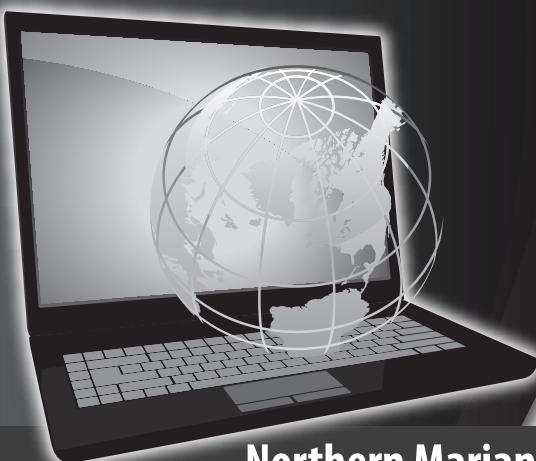
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at NMC in Bldg. P. You may also contact

Ms. Eileen Babauta at (670) 237-6764/6808/6810 or email her at eileen.babauta@marianas.edu.

CDI also offers specialized, as well as advanced courses.



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Option to ship Tinian solid waste to Saipan

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Marine Forces Pacific executive director Craig B. Whelden said that moving solid waste from Tinian to Saipan where there is a compliant sanitary landfill is one of the options now being considered as the military plans to build live-fire training ranges on both Tinian and Pagan.

Tinian Mayor Ramon Dela Cruz separately said yesterday he supports this option of off-island shipment of trash, while at the same time pushing for a transfer station and recycling fa-

cility on the island.

MARFORPAC representatives and the Tinian mayor met last week on a host of issues concerning military plans on Tinian, and of those items is addressing the island's solid waste.

"We're looking at options to potentially take solid waste off the island perhaps and move it here to Saipan," Whelden told reporters after a meeting with Gov. Eloy S. Inos on Friday.

He said that option calls for a solid waste transfer station

on Tinian.

The Tinian mayor said if this option is pursued, he would ask the military to "initially" fund the shipment of solid waste from Tinian to Saipan, where there is a federally compliant landfill located in Marpi.

Tinian, just like Rota, operates an open dump that has been the subject of local and federal agencies' health and environmental concerns. The Tinian open dump is located southwest of the island and



Whelden

near the airport.

Both islands have been planning for years to build sanitary landfills but funding issues, along with military plans on Tinian, have been stalling the project. Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality administrator Frank M. Rabauliman was earlier quoted as saying that the government has decided to scale back the construction of sanitary landfills on Tinian and Rota. They are now in danger of being cancelled, he had said.

Whelden said MARFORPAC will continue its dialogue with the CNMI on military plans for

Tinian and Pagan, including the ad-hoc committee meetings.

He said whatever progress they had in last week's meeting would entail "homework" for parties involved "between now and the next one [which] we're tentatively scheduling for early May."

Whelden gave more details about military plans to build live-fire training ranges on Tinian and Pagan on Friday, including a possible addition of another alternative to Pagan after hearing residents' concerns in the past several months. Inos said he's "pleased" with the regular consultations that now talk

about "specific issues" rather than "generalities."

On Tinian, there would be 400 to 500 U.S. Marines at any given time during training. On Pagan, the number is significantly higher—some 2,400 U.S. Marines at any given time during training. But the training could only be for 16 to 20 weeks a year, versus the 45 weeks a year that was initially planned.

A Record of Decision on the Tinian and Pagan plans is set for a release date of February 2015.

MARFORPAC is the executive agency charged with preparing the environmental impact statement and overseas impact statement on the proposed Tinian and Pagan training ranges.

IN CASE VS ALLEGED 'ICE' SUPPLIER Detention order is defective—Banes

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The lawyer of an alleged leader of a group of methamphetamine or "ice" suppliers on Saipan asked the federal court yesterday to review the detention order issued by Magistrate Judge Heather Kennedy, saying it is defective on its face.

In attorney David G. Banes' motion for review, he said that Kennedy's detention order failed to apply the standard of review as it does not contain any specific fact-finding or explanatory reasoning.

"In fact, the detention order appears to be mostly a pre-printed two-page fill-in-the-blank template containing check-the-box findings of fact and a four sentence statement of rationale that fails to dis-

cuss why the conditions proposed by defendant would not meet the conditions to insure the safety of the community and that he will not be a flight risk," the lawyer said.

Banes asked the U.S. District Court for the NMI to release his client, Xing Bo Fang, or hold a hearing for proper fact finding and issue a written statement of its reasoning, together with other relief the court deems just and proper.

In her Feb. 24 order, Kennedy said the evidence shows there is no condition that will assure Fang's appearance in court. She said Fang's offer of Carlos Torres as a third-party custodian is not enough.

Kennedy noted, among other things, that the weight of the evidence against Fang, including audio and video recordings of

events, gave clear and convincing evidence that no condition of release will reasonably assure the community's safety.

Fang was one of seven persons arrested last month for alleged distribution of "ice."

In Fang's motion for review, Banes said Kennedy's conclusion why Fang should be kept detained fails to specify why the conditions Fang proposed did not meet the required standards.

He pointed out that a valid detention order must contain written findings of fact and a written statement of the reasons for detention.

"A magistrate court's failure to properly explain its rationale either through a written decision or an oral statement on the record constitutes reversible error," said Banes, citing precedent.

CNMI soldiers take part in reintegration program



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Rep. Lorenzo Deleon Guerrero, right, presents House Resolution 18-7 to members of the 1-294th Infantry Regiment, Guam Army National Guard.

The Guam Army National Guard held the 30-Day Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program at the Hyatt Sandcastle, Saipan, on March 22, 2014, with CNMI soldiers and their families.

resources to soldiers and their families.

The intent of this event was to help service members and their families reconnect after deployment, provide information about resources that can help reduce the stressors associated with a long separation, and educate service members and their families about the benefits they

have earned as a result of their deployment and how to access those benefits. This was also an opportunity to welcome service members home.

Others in attendance were Rep. Mariano Taitano, Rep. Lorenzo Deleon Guerrero, Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan, and Associate Judge David A. Wiseman. (PR)

tion order fails to evaluate this information.

Banes said that Fang has lived on Saipan for about 15 years, his former wife is here, and he has no prior criminal history or history of drug or alcohol abuse.

Banes admits that the charged crime is serious, involving 100 grams of a controlled substance, but noted that Fang's proposed conditions would mean he is no danger to the community or a flight risk.

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Law enforcement drug testing bill heads to Inos

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

The Senate passed Friday a House bill requiring all law enforcement personnel to undergo drug testing each year.

This comes at a time when the CNMI is grappling with incidents of police officers, firefighters, corrections officers, customs officers and related

personnel being convicted or charged with drug-related cases. The bill now goes to Gov. Eloy S. Inos for action.

Senators voted 9-0 to pass Rep. Christopher Leon Guerrero's (Cov-Saipan) House Bill 18-101, or the Law Enforcement Mandatory Drug Testing Act of 2013.

This also comes on the heels of the Department of Public

Safety's call for the Legislature to fund drug testing programs.

Leon Guerrero, a former DPS police officer, said several convicted law enforcement officers were directly assigned to the CNMI Interagency Financial Crimes and Drug Enforcement Task Force or the CNMI Narcotics Activity Resolution Coalition, "the very task forces entrusted to focus

on the enforcement of financial crimes and the enforcement of anti-drug trafficking laws" of the CNMI.

He said many of these law enforcement officers are authorized to carry firearms, "which makes it even more increasingly dangerous for an armed law enforcement officer to be under the influence of a controlled substance or be

engaged in drug trafficking related activities."

DPS, the largest law enforcement agency in the CNMI, has publicly supported a "zero tolerance" mandatory drug testing policy for all police officers and firefighters with the consequence of dismissal from employment upon discovery of a positive drug test result.

The mandatory drug testing bill is among the eight bills that the Senate passed on Fri-

day, five of which now head for the governor for action and the rest, to the House.

CAPE

From Page 1

Saipan at 8:55pm and arrive in Guam at 10:52pm with a short stop on Rota.

Cape Air, the only carrier now servicing travelers from the CNMI to neighboring Guam has reportedly been experiencing delays in its regular flights since Friday due to what was described as "maintenance check."

Saipan Tribune learned this from sources who also disclosed that Cape Air's lone ATR-42 aircraft made an emergency landing Friday at the Francisco C. Ada-Saipan International Airport runway at past 2pm.

At least two customers affected by the delayed flights confirmed the sudden changes in their flight schedules.

One customer who was supposed to return to Rota by Saturday had to wait for the company's other aircraft and her departure was rescheduled for Sunday.

Another customer traveling to Guam who had a confirmed schedule for Sunday was also rescheduled to today, Tuesday.

Saipan Tribune learned that the temporary delay in the carrier's regular flights was a result of the maintenance check needed for its ATR-42—the sole aircraft being used to transport passengers to Rota and Guam and vice versa.

It was the middle of last year when Cape Air resumed daily flights to Rota from a four-times-a-week schedule. Since early this month, Cape Air has been the only carrier providing air service to Rota after Freedom Air stopped flying on March 8 when the airline's aviation insurance expired.

UOG Island Sustainability Conference on April 15-16

From small islands come big ideas, says Ronald Jumeau, Seychelles Ambassador for Climate Change and Small Island Developing States issues and keynote speaker for the UOG Center for Island Sustainability's regional conference on Island Sustainability, scheduled for April 15 and 16 at the Hyatt Regency Guam.

Jumeau is a global leader in island conservation and sustain-

able livelihoods. He has focused his attention on raising awareness of the impact of climate change on vulnerable island nations and how island communities can achieve sustainable social and economic objectives.

Jumeau is the lead spokesman for the Alliance of Small Island States and chair of the Steering Committee of the Global Island Partnership GLISPA. In 2007, Jumeau was assigned to New

York as the Seychelles Permanent Representative to the United Nations and Ambassador to the United States, Canada, Brazil, Cuba and several Caribbean islands until 2012 when he became a globe-trotting activist for the survival of his and other island nations.

The theme of the conference is "Concept to Implementation: Achieving a Sustainable Community." The conference fea-

tures, panel sessions, winners of the Green Dream Home competition, and 20-plus breakout sessions including sustainable environments, climate change and energy, sustainable land use and regional management, technical innovations for sustainable production and consumption, leadership for sustainable development, entrepreneurial opportunities for sustainable solutions, and corporate social responsibility.

"Come to the conference to

learn, network, and help develop our sustainable community," said UOG sustainability coordinator Elvie Tyler. "We look forward to another forum in which we can share knowledge and become voices for action for the benefit of our islands."

To register contact Carlos Taitano at ctaitano@guam.uog.edu or call 735-2600. For more information contact Tyler at etyler@uguam.uog.edu or call the Center for Island Sustainability at 734-0478. (*UOG*)



Students take part in the Humatak Watershed Adventure tour led by Austin Shelton during the 2013 UOG Island Sustainability Conference.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

DANGERS

From Page 1

sion cut restoration.

For example, restoring retirees' 25 percent pension cut "within 90 days" hinges on the immediate amendment to the law's dedication of funds, among other things.

Moreover, even with a House technical correction on the casino bill prior to transmittal to Gov. Eloy S. Inos, the Inos administration wants the rebate program to be explicitly restored by way of amendment and for the exclusive license to be shortened from 80 years to only 40 years.

Under the new law, investors need to pay the nonrefundable \$1 million application fee within 15 days of the law's signing on March 21.

But the governor and lawmakers want to change the 15-day timeline for the application fee to 30 days, and another 45 days to pay the partial \$30 million exclusive license fee. They

only have until around April 5 to ensure the amendment bill becomes law.

Demapan said yesterday he could prefile the amendment bill as early as today. The governor and lawmakers have been going back and forth on proposed amendments to the casino measure, and the amendment bill is believed to be on its third draft as of this weekend.

"The bill has not been prefiled yet and for the Senate to even hold public hearing on the bill, the bill has to pass the House first. But I do respect their prerogative," Demapan said.

Taimanao, in her notice of public hearing yesterday, said, "It is imperative that the Legislature work with the business community, the local municipalities, various government agencies and the general public to properly discuss and address the proposed amendments that must be passed by the Legislature."

"These series of public hearings are, therefore, being called

to allow the public to join in the discussion of this bill legalizing casino operation on Saipan," Taimanao said.

Lawmakers, business groups, and other community members have expressed concern over what they describe as a "rushed" passage of a "flawed" Saipan casino bill.

The governor himself recognized problematic provisions in the casino bill but signed it anyway after getting an assurance from the House and Senate that they will immediately amend the law.

Some pro-casino lawmakers said it would be easier to have the law amended rather than introduce a new bill that may not even pass the second time around. It was the first time that the Senate passed a Saipan casino bill from the House in at least four years.

They added that they do not want to renege on their commitment to fix the casino legislation that passed the Legislature early this month.

In a phone interview, Taimanao

said she hopes that her colleagues at the Senate would allow for the amendment bill to go through a series of public hearings.

The public hearings are set for the following dates: March 31 at the Senate chamber on Saipan at 10am; April 2 at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multipurpose Center on Saipan at 6pm; April 9 at the Tinian Courthouse at 6pm; April 11 at the Rota Mayor's Office conference room at 10am; and April 16 at the Kagman Community Center on Saipan at 6pm.

Sen. Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota) reiterated yesterday that public hearings will allow lawmakers to directly hear from the people and casino experts on how they feel about a casino industry on Saipan.

"On a very complex issue such as casino industry, we need to bring in people to talk about numbers, impacts, industry concerns, so that the CNMI can do it right and not regret the new law later on. Rushing all of this once again will bring us back to what happened in the first try,

a bill with so many problems passed and was signed," he said.

Rep. Ralph Yumul (Ind-Saipan), one of those who voted "no" to the casino bill's passage, said he will ask the leadership "to place the amendment [bill] to committee at minimum."

"This way, we can work on addressing all concerns, even holding public hearing," he added.

Signature drive

At the same time, a private group's signature drive to put the Saipan casino question on the ballot once again now hangs in the balance because casino has now become legal on Saipan by virtue of PL 18-38.

"We're consulting with attorneys. If they say that this popular initiative will take precedence over the casino law, then we will continue gathering signatures. We're going to have a meeting to continue discussing this," Marianas Economic Research and Development Foundation president and board chair

Isidoro T. Cabrera told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

The Inos administration has yet to release a copy of the new casino law as of yesterday, Covenant Day, a non-working holiday.

The governor's cover letter spells out his specific concerns about the casino legislation and why it needs to be amended.

Inos announced on Sunday's Republican Party kickoff rally that he signed the casino bill into law on Friday afternoon, drawing applause and cheers from the crowd of hundreds.

He said with the law's signing and its planned amendment, retirees will be able to receive the 25 percent that was cut from their pension while others will be able to receive the interest on the retirement contribution they were able to withdraw last year. Inos also wants the Saipan casino industry to subsidize the so-called LEAC rate for Commonwealth Utilities Corp.'s residential customers to help lower CUC utility rates.

'December CW deadline too short to train new local hires'

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Hotel Association in the Northern Mariana Islands is wary of the immediate impact on the Commonwealth's tourism industry if the federal government decides not to extend the contract worker program

Passenger fee to Managaha is waived for 6 more months

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

The Commonwealth Ports Authority ruled Friday that the \$1 per passenger fee collected from Managaha Island tourists will be waived anew for another six months or until June this year.

The decision was made following a request by Tasi Tours & Transportation Inc., which sought an extension of the waiver for the whole of 2014.

According to board member Benigno Sablan, the decision was reached after the board's extensive discussion on the request in an executive session Friday. He moved that Tasi Tours be given until June 30, 2014.

Beginning July 1, however, CPA will begin collecting the fee again.

Due to the challenges faced by the tourism industry, CPA first approved in 2012 a waiver for Tasi Tours suspending the \$1 per passenger fee collected from tourists going to Managaha. This waiver was granted anew for the same reason in 2013.

On Jan. 3, 2014, Tasi Tours

Only two known students avail of WICHE program

So far, only two CNMI students are known to have availed of the WICHE program, according to Christine Inos, an outreach counselor who presented for the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education at the 2014 Counselors Conference on March 21 and 22 at Saipan World Resort.

Timmothy Baker, the director of student activities and counseling at Northern Marianas College, said that there hasn't been a yearly track on students who've availed of WICHE, yet only two have been heard of.

"There must be hundreds of students from the CNMI that are under the WICHE program, but we're not sure of the exact amount," he said.

Inos said that CNMI students should take advantage of the program because it helps a lot of graduating students from high schools or those who want to pursue degrees in U.S. mainland universities.

"This program allows students to avail of a cheaper rate with a 150 percent discount," she said.

beyond this year.

HANMI president Nick Nishikawa described the program's December deadline as "too short" for hotels to prepare for the exodus of most of its employees.

Nishikawa, who is also general manager of the Hyatt Regency Saipan, disclosed that

the establishment is projected to lose 40 percent of its staff once their CW permits expire all at the same time in the next 10 months.

"December is too short for our hotels to find replacements. We need a few more years—maybe three to five years—to train all of our local hires. At present, we're depending many of our services on CW staff and it's not that easy to train new workers," said Nishikawa.

Hyatt, he said, has a high number of local hires now at 60 percent of its workforce. The remaining percentage is occupied by alien workers, majority from the Philippines.

When asked if hotels are finding the needed replacement for their CW personnel,

Nishikawa said the association has been able to find "many good local people" for various positions but they lack the necessary training.

He said hotels are willing to hire and have been training new personnel ever since the CW program was established.

"If we will be given the extension we need, I am optimistic that we will be better prepared. But without the requested extension beyond 2014, it would make us difficult to survive," he said.

He pointed out that the lack of a well-trained hotel staff would mean lowering hotel service standards that would ultimately chase away guests and tourists.

"Our need for well-trained

workers must be considered in order for us to continue business on this island," he said.

He conceded that many hotels have found good local people to hire but that the available talent in the CNMI remains insufficient to satisfy the demand of all hotels.

Nishikawa predicts chaos in the hotel industry if no extension is accorded to CW personnel. He said the high occupancy rates in most hotels at present is ultimately attributed to the kind of service CNMI hotels provide.

The federal government has yet to provide any assurance that it will extend the CW program, despite requests made by the CNMI government and Delegate Gregorio Kilili C.

Sablan (Ind-MP).

The CW program is expiring on Dec. 31, 2014, leaving the federal government 10 months to make its decision. If the extension is not granted, all foreign workers in the CNMI—estimated at some 10,000—will be forced to exit the Commonwealth.

Gov. Eloy S. Inos earlier reiterated that the CNMI really needs an extension of the transition period because current tourism trends have resulted in new businesses opening up and new investments coming to the islands, which needs workers.

HANMI has 12 member hotels. It was established in 1985 as a professional forum for the hospitality industry of the NMI.

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'Order finding PPA void should preclude SDLLC suit in fed court'

» Fisher said Fitial's executive order did not suspend procurement regulations

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The decision of Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman to declare as void *ab initio* (from the beginning) the power purchase agreement then-governor Benigno R. Fitial inked with Saipan Development LLC should preclude SDLLC's lawsuit in federal court, according to the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.

CUC counsel Deborah E. Fisher noted since CUC filed its motion to dismiss SDLLC's lawsuit in federal court, Wiseman issued a decision on Feb. 4, 2014, ruling that the agreement was facially invalid and the subsequent PPA at issue was void from the start.

Fisher cited Wiseman's order in CUC's reply to SDLLC's opposition to CUC's motion to dismiss SDLLC's lawsuit in federal court.

SDLLC, the Delaware-based contractor of the controversial \$190.8-million PPA, filed a lawsuit in federal court against CUC over the voided agreement.

The CNMI Senate, Rep. Janet U. Maratita (IR-Saipan), and Sen. Ray A. Yumul (IR-Saipan) sued Fitial, Attorney General Joey San Nicolas, CUC, and SDLLC in Superior Court over the PPA and sought a preliminary injunction to stop it.

In CUC's reply to SDLLC's opposition to the motion to dismiss, Fisher cited precedent that states "federal courts have consistently accorded preclusive effect to issues decided by

state court, thereby promoting comity between state and federal courts."

Fisher said the U.S. District Court for the NMI should apply principles of issue preclusion and comity, and consider Wiseman's order preclusive.

Citing the Rooker-Feldman doctrine, Fisher said that if "claims raised in a federal court action are 'inextricably intertwined' with the state court's decision such that the adjudication of the federal claims would undercut the state ruling or require the district court to interpret the application of state laws or procedural rules, then the federal complaint must be dismissed for lack of subject matter jurisdiction."

Fisher said any ruling awarding damages on a void-from-the-start contract would violate not only the theories of issue preclusion and comity, but the Rooker-Feldman doctrine.

The CUC counsel also stated that even if the federal court did not consider the Superior Court's decision, the contract was void from the beginning, and cannot be a basis to amend the complaint.

Fisher also pointed out that SDLLC's claim that Fitial signed the PPA as part of a state of emergency pursuant to an executive order fails to address the fact that the EO provided no authority for the former governor to violate CUC's or the CNMI's procurement regulations.

Fisher said the contract did violate procurement regulations, as Wiseman found.

Even if it could be argued

that Fitial could suspend procurement regulations by an executive order, he did not do so with the EO, Fisher said. She pointed out that the EO only allows for CUC to enter into renewable energy contracts and possibly take other actions

without oversight from the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission.

"In no way, however, did the EO suspend the underlying procurement laws and regulations," she asserted.

In addition, Fisher said, the EO

indicates that Fitial assumed the powers of the board of directors and executive director of CUC.

"But, neither the board nor the executive director has the power to ignore procurement regulations or CNMI laws—and therefore neither did the

governor," she added.

In SDLLC's opposition to the motion to dismiss, SDLLC counsel William Fitzgerald said that Fitial's EO excuses CUC from complying with procurement regulations and that this means that the PPA was valid.



JAYSON CAMACHO

Dr. Ignacia Demapan poses with attendees after her session on Cultural Awareness in the Tapochau Room of Saipan World Resort.

Over 60 attend counselors' conference

Over 60 counselors, teachers, volunteers, and advocates attended the 2014 Counselor's Conference held at the Saipan World Resort on March 20 and 21.

The workshop started at 7:30am for both days and ended at 4pm with various advocacy concessions like the Division of Youth Services, Project Brabu, HIV/STD Program, HOME Visiting Program, Non-Communicable Disease Bureau, Commonwealth Cancer Association, and Joeten Kiyu Public Library showcasing their partnership with the Public School System and

Northern Marianas College.

NMC also held presentations on admissions and information, Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education, financial aid, and the College Access Challenge Grant.

The workshop also held breakout sessions and lunch and snacks were provided throughout the workshop.

One of the highlights of the workshops was the promotion of the College Access Challenge Grant, as presented by Theresa Worswick and Hedwig Hofschneider, who are both outreach counselors for the program.

NMC director of student activities and counseling Timothy Baker said that NMC is reapplying for the grant.

"Since counselors have direct contact with majority of the students, we try to support their knowledge," Baker said. The funding from the College Access Challenge Grant is a big part of the conference.

Baker said the conference had a great turnout. "Fantastic! PSS probably has the best group of academic counselors dedicated and they need all the support," he added.

NMC, through the College Access Challenge Grant, works with counselors to make sure students get into college. Baker noted that they are planning and working on more grants.

Daisy Villagomez-Bier, a counselor at San Antonio Elementary School, said that the conference aims to work with all the different school counselors. "It is an outreach to help each other, by providing educational opportunities and unlocking the potential of students," she said.

Villagomez-Bier said the conference is a wonderful opportunity "to work with former colleagues and its really important for educational institutions when they partner up, they work together for the betterment of the kids."

The breakout sessions, which lasted about an hour, included risk behaviors, group counseling, cultural awareness, working with students with special needs, drug and alcohol abuse and what to do in an active shooting incident.

Major presentations were also held by other presenters about paying for college, starting at NMC, introductions to WICHE, team building, and mental health.

NMC, with funding from the CACG, promotes college admission and success among thousands of students and families in the CNMI each year.

The 2014 Counselors' Conference was made possible through the financial support of the U.S. Department of Education's CACG program. (Jayson Camacho)



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PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Board of Directors, through its Chairwoman of the Board, is hereby giving notice that the Regular Meeting of the Board is scheduled on Wednesday, March 26, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. at the NMHC Conference Room, Garapan, Saipan. The public is welcome to submit written or oral comments regarding the agenda below. Individuals interested in attending the meeting and needing special accommodations are requested to contact NMHC in advance.

I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS

- a. Call to Order
- b. Roll Call
- c. Adoption of Agenda
- d. Adoption of Minutes
- i. February 5 & 13, 2014 Regular Board Meeting Minutes

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS

III. CORPORATE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- a. Division Monthly Reports
- b. Draft Annual Report
- c. MMRC Public Access
- d. Update on CDBG Matters
 - 1. On-going Projects
 - e. Update on Program and Housing Division Matters
 - f. Update on Mortgage & Credit Division Matters
 - 1. Payoff Proposal
 - 2. Loan Modification Request
 - 3. Housing Expo Update
 - 4. Amendments to HOME Policies and Procedures
 - 5. Loans for Approval

IV. FIELD OFFICE REPORTS

- a. Rota Field Office
- b. Tinian Field Office

V. OLD BUSINESS

VI. FISCAL AFFAIRS

- a. FY 2014 and February 2014 Financial Statements
- b. Performance Assessment Report
- c. Draft Audit Report
- d. FY 2015 Budget

VII. LEGAL COUNSEL'S PENDING/ONGOING REPORT

VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

IX. OTHER MATTERS

X. ADJOURNMENT

(Note: Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13(a) (7) and Section 13(c), the Board may vote to meet in executive session.)

/s/ MARCIE M. TOMOKANE
Chairwoman of the Board

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

**INVITATION TO BID
2014-CDA-03-ITB**

**Submission & Opening Date: April 25, 2014
Time: 10:00 a.m.**

**"SUPPLY OF TABLETS, BLUETOOTH
KEYBOARDS and CASES FOR CDA"**

Copies of the specifications may be picked up at the Commonwealth Development Authority Office, 2nd Floor in Oleai, Saipan during regular working hours.

The Commonwealth reserves the right to reject any and all bids and proposals in whole or in part, and to waive any imperfection in a bid in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. All bids shall become the property of the CNMI government.

/S/ MANUEL A. SABLON
Executive Director

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLON
Director P&S

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
RFP: RFP14-HSEM-078**

**SUBMISSION DATE: APRIL 15, 2014
TIME: 2:00 P.M.**

**"AIR CONDITIONING REPAIR FOR HOMELAND SECURITY AND EMERGENCY
MANAGEMENT AGENCY-EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER"**

COPIES OF THE RFP PACKET MAY BE PICKED UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DR., SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

A MANDATORY PRE-PROPOSAL CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD AT 9:00 A.M. LOCAL TIME ON APRIL 04, 2014, AT THE CNMI EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER, CAPITAL HILL, SAIPAN, MP 96950. ALL PROSPECTIVE OFFERORS THAT DO NOT HAVE A REPRESENTATIVE IN ATTENDANCE WILL BE CONSIDERED NON-RESPONSIVE TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SOLICITATION.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL PROPOSALS; OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT. ALL PROPOSALS RECEIVED SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ MARVIN K. SEMAN
SPECIAL ASSISTANT FOR HOMELAND SECURITY AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLON
DIRECTOR, P&S

Work starts on cleaning up drainages, canals in Garapan

The Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality has partnered with the Department of Public Works, Commonwealth Utilities Corp., Saipan Mayor's Office, PDM Promoters, Inc., and other agencies to clean up the island's main tourist district of Garapan.

The effort involves cleaning up drainages, installing hauling bins, and clearing roads of trash that will eventually end up in drainages that lead to coastal waters.

BECQ started things out by tackling the main canal along Winchell's Road where majority of the drainages around Garapan drains through. This started on March 17 and is part of BECQ's Garapan Conservation Action Plan to improve the subwatershed of West Tapochau Central.

"We are partnering up with DPW in cleaning the area in the canal and outside," said Watershed coordinator Kaitlin Mattos.

The project, which will take three to four weeks to finish, seeks to improve the management of cumulative and secondary impacts such as stormwater and sewage runoff, surface pollutants entering the lagoon, increasing impervious cover, and trash littering and dumping.

They have begun clearing out and pumping mud from the canal, putting silk fences for the mud clearing area and

covering the entrance of the canals, putting sand bags to trap wastewater and the man-made pond at the American Memorial Park along with the canal, and clearing trash.

BECQ also reached out to businesses in the area to improve trash collection and sponsored an art contest that seeks to discourage people from dumping their trash in storm drainages.

Invasive species are also a priority such as tilapia, sailfin mollies (fish), and cane toads that live in the area.

DPW trade specialist Dennis Davis said, "We are in joint operation with BECQ to assist for drainage and manual cleanup. We intend to do all the drainage planning, then move to a man-made pond in the American Memorial Park."

The drainage on Coral Tree Avenue leads from a man-made pond in the park toward the catch basin where DPW is putting sand bags to trap the water from entering the canal during the cleaning process.

CUC is using a special equipment that go into the 24-inch pipe to wash out all sediments into the catch basin.

Mattos said that CUC would work later on the main pipelines in the area. They will also be inspecting if there are any possible illegal pipelines that are connected to the canal.

Detry Pumping is taking care



A worker cleans out the main canal along Winchell's Road where majority of the drainages around Garapan drains through. JAYSON CAMACHO

of pumping out the drainage water and sludge in the canals.

"The silk fences are where the dumping of dirty water will be at," said Clarissa Bearden, branch manager for water quality under BECQ. "Our hope is to try and get the area cleaned up. This is to protect them and the whole community in the area."

Mattos said the mayor's office is assisting with beautification and special equipment that BECQ doesn't have.

About three silk fences have been installed, one near the beach, one blocking off runoff from the canal that surpasses the sand bag traps, and one across the main canal.

Mattos said the mayor's office is assisting with beautification and special equipment that BECQ doesn't have.

She said they would be moving on to the drainages on Coral Tree Avenue and then on to the Paseo de Marianas.

"We will be working with CUC to clean out the sewage at Paseo, because there have been complaints of smell in the area, especially on events that go in there," Davis said.

Mattos noted that the Marianas Visitors Authority and PDM promoters are also working to obtain trash bins. The trash bins will be four to eight cubic yards in size, with daily pick-ups. The program will start around April 2014 and will be enforced among businesses in the area and nearby homes.

In order for businesses to renew licenses or obtain zoning licenses and sanitary permits,

applicants must have a valid contract with a permitted trash hauler or show tipping receipts from DPW's landfill or transfer station or participate in the new public bin system.

Failure to comply with the new program will have their business, zoning, or sanitary licenses revoked or not renewed and also be subject to scrutiny and enforcement action.

Kathy Yuknavage, technical adviser to Water Quality, said that if it's a restaurant it might be more expensive.

"It is a health hazard to tourism and trash contribute to part of pollution entering the water," Yuknavage said. (Jayson Camacho)

2 in fruit bat poaching case get 30-day sentences

The federal court has imposed 30-day prison terms on former Rota customs officer Albert A. Taitano and former Division of Fish and Wildlife staff David A. Santos for conspiring in 2008 to poach on a breeding colony of the threatened Mariana fruit bat.

On Friday, U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona remanded Santos into the custody of the U.S. Marshal in order to immediately start serving his sentence.

Manglona granted Taitano's request to allow him to report to the U.S. Marshal yesterday, Monday, to begin serving his sentence.

Upon release from custody, Santos and Taitano will be placed on supervised release for one year. They are each required to perform 50 hours of community service and pay \$10 in special assessment fee.

Manglona waived all fines since it has been determined that the defendants do not have the ability to pay a fine.

Assistant U.S. attorney Ross Naughton recommended a sentence of 30 months in prison and a \$1,000 fine.

Attorney Michael Dotts, counsel for Santos, recommended a 30-day prison term with no fine. Attorney Bruce Berline, counsel for Taitano, recommended a sentence of probation.

Santos and Taitano both pleaded guilty in January to conspiring to unlawfully take

and transport a threatened species—a misdemeanor offense—as part of a plea deal with the U.S. government.

According to the superseding indictment, Santos and Taitano poached on a fruit bat colony on Rota on Nov. 1, 2008.

Santos and Taitano were in-

dicted in 2011 with retired police lieutenant Adrian Mendiola guilty of unlawful possession of a threatened wildlife but not guilty of unlawful receipt or acquisition of threatened wildlife.

The U.S. government filed the superseding indictment against Santos and Taitano in April 2013. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

JENNIFER DOCKTER
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San Jose Village
P.O. Box 501127
Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone No.: (670) 234-7455/234-7427
Facsimile No.: (670) 234-7257

Attorney for Petitioners.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

In the Matter of
GUO HUANG XU and
QING XU ZHENG,
Deceased.
Date: March 25, 2014
Time: 1:30PM.
Judge: Honorable
David A. Wiseman

TO: THE HEIRS, GENERAL PUBLIC AND CREDITORS OF THE DECEDENTS OR OF THEIR ESTATE

Notice is hereby given that the Petitioners, Qing Shan Zheng and Qing Ying Zheng, has filed a Petition For Letters of Administration in the above-entitled Estate proceeding pursuant to Rule NMI R. of Prob. P. 15. A hearing on the petition will be conducted by the Court on March 25, 2014 at 1:30PM, in Courtroom 223, Superior Court. All persons interested are hereby notified to appear at the hearing and show cause, if any, why the order should not be made.

Pursuant to NMI R. of Prob. P. 21, notice is hereby given to all creditors of the Decedent or her Estate that they must file their claims with the Clerk of Court within sixty (60) days of the publication of this notice. A copy of the claim of any creditor should be sent to Jennifer Dockter at the above indicated address.

Reference is hereby made to the petition for further particulars.

SO NOTICED this 21st day of March, 2014.

/s/ CLERK OF COURT

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Department of Community and Cultural Affairs
Office of the Secretary

Caller Box 10007
Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950
Tel. (670) 664-2587 • Fax. (670) 664-2547

BOARD MEETING NOTICE

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, Governor Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Governor Jude U. Hofschneider through the Division of Historic Preservation, under the auspices of the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs, wishes to advise the general public that the Historic Review Board will hold its annual meeting on March 28, 2014. The meeting will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Office on Aging Center's Conference Room, located across the Garapan Central Park.

Interested individuals are invited to attend.

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order
- II. Adoption of minutes of previous meeting
- III. Old Business
 - a. Divert activities & other related military activities
 - b. Legal Counsel's report on Public Law 3-39 and as amended (PL 10-71)
 - c. HPO Regulations Policy, Procedures and By-Laws review update (NPS)
 - d. Status of Fr. Hazel projects for publications
 - e. Budget 2010, 2011 & 2012 status reports
 - f. Signage/Fencing of historical sites & water cave on Rota
 - g. HPO's report on Archaeologist and Historian Positions
 - h. Section 106 training
 - i. Latte Stone relocation request by the Mayor of Rota
 - j. Tinian Project Update
- IV. New Business
 - a. Secretary's Remarks
 - b. Orientation of the New Board Members
 - c. Duties and Membership of the State Review Board
 - d. Draft MOA on Divert Activities & Response from the Air Force Update
 - e. Tinian/Rota Program Update
 - f. Saipan Review and Compliance Update
 - g. HPO Financial Update
 - h. Japanese Bone Collection Activities Report
 - i. Other Regulatory Requirements & Guidelines (U.S. EPA)
 - j. Other New Business
- V. Adoption of Resolutions
- VI. Adjournment

/s/ Laura T. Ogumoro
Acting CNMI SHPO/Secretary, DCCA

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
RFP NO.: RFP14-BECQ-086**

SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: APRIL 24, 2014 • TIME: 2:00 P.M.

OPERATOR TRAINING FOR UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANKS – CLASS A/B OPERATORS FOR THE BUREAU OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND COASTAL QUALITY

THE SCOPE OF WORK IS AVAILABLE ON OR AFTER MARCH 25, 2014 AT www.deq.gov.mp AS WELL AS AT THE BECQ OFFICE LOCATED IN THE GUALO RAI CENTER BUILDING, SAIPAN, OR ELECTRONICALLY BY EMAIL REQUEST TO reinacamacho@deq.gov.mp. QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS PROJECT MAY BE SUBMITTED BY EMAIL TO reinacamacho@deq.gov.mp NO LATER THAN THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS, APRIL 14, 2014.

THE COMMONWEALTH RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND PROPOSALS; IN WHOLE OR IN PART, AND TO WAVE ANY IMPERFECTION IN A BID IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS. ALL BIDS SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ FRANK M. BABAUUMAN
ADMINISTRATOR, BECQ

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

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Applications can be obtained and submitted at our security office located in the south wing. To be considered, applications must be submitted no later than 5:00 p.m., March 25, 2014.

Fiesta Resort is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

COTA offers free ride to career fair

The Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority is offering free roundtrip rides to the general public for the 2014 Northern Marianas College Career Fair on April 3, 2014.

The Career Fair starts at 9am and will end at 12pm. Advance reservation is required to avail of the free roundtrip ride.

Those interested and plan to attend but have no access to transportation are encouraged to call COTA and reserve their

ride in advance.

In other news, the service hours of COTA Call-a-Ride Service effectively changed on March 15, 2014.

Call-a-Ride Saipan service hours are now from 6am to 9pm from Mondays to Fridays. Saturdays is from 7am to 6pm and the service is closed on Sundays and holidays.

Reservation hours will be from 8am to 8pm on Mondays to Fridays and Saturdays will

be from 8am to 4pm. Also, a new reservation number will soon come into action and will be changed to (670) 664-2690; transit information will be 511.

The reason for this is the increased number of people availing of the service. In February alone, the number of trips totaled 544. The trips included 223 to residences, 87 for medical needs, 80 for work, 71 for public assistance, 21 for banks, 20 for school or college, 15 for

diners, 10 for shopping, nine for recreational, seven for utilities, and one for the post office.

The service fleet includes two accessible full-size passenger vans and one back up or repair vehicle. There are about four transit operators.

For more information on the free roundtrip ride and reservations, call (670) 664-2682, text at (670) 483-4344, or email at cnmccallaride@gmail.com. (Jayson Camacho)

Motheread/Fatheread trainers widen skills



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Rosalyn Ajoste and Lauren Francis, both seated, pose with participants after the CNMI Motheread/Fatheread Certified Parent Trainers and Story Exploring Instructor's Meeting on March 1, 2014, at the Herman's Modern Bakery conference room.

The CNMI Motheread/Fatheread Certified Parent Trainers and Story Exploring Instructor's Meeting was held on Saturday, March 1, 2014, at the Herman's Modern Bakery conference room.

The morning guest presenter was Rosalyn Ajoste, who is currently the Joeten Kiyu Public Library's Technical Services librarian. Ajoste delighted the Motheread/Fatheread team with her informational presen-

tation about the history of the Joeten Kiyu Public Library. She informed participants of the unique services the JKPL has to offer to the CNMI, including the E-Reader books and the Added Value 2 books, both of which further enhance one's reading experience by combining resources from the Internet such as reading modules and links.

Ajoste also presented on the EBSCO host databases and dis-

covery technologies, which are the most-used, premium online information resources for tens of thousands of institutions worldwide, representing millions of end-users.

The afternoon guest presenter, Lauren Francis, a teacher who hails from Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School, presented on the CNMI Motheread/Fatheread website. Francis devoted more than six vol-

unteer hours on the Motheread/Fatheread website, <https://sites.google.com/site/cnmimotheread/fatheread/home/>.

The CNMI Motheread/Fatheread Family Literacy Program is administered by the Northern Marianas Humanities Council in partnership with the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs, the Public School System, and the Joeten Kiyu Public Library. (PR)

South Pacific Tuna Corp. continues course for improved safety

SAN DIEGO & HONOLU—South Pacific Tuna Corp. pointed to the tuna industry's 2013 record of zero fatalities in response to a recent report, implication of safety concerns, and 2012 violations from foreign officers license certification, as cited in a recent press release from Coast Guard Sector Guam.

The company's track record of overall operational safety and ongoing policy improvement work in cooperation with the U.S. Coast Guard in Washington, D.C., as well as the 14th Guard District in Honolulu, is a reminder that the entire South Pacific tuna fleet continues to raise the global bar for safety best practices in purse seine vessel management.

"Over the past five years, our industry has worked alongside the Coast Guard to help carry out applicable and efficient policy reforms through information sharing and by ensuring access to the fleet," said South Pacific

Tuna Corp. partner J. Douglas Hines. "This transparency enables us to improve our safety protocol, and enables the Coast Guard to effectively regulate and monitor our vessels."

South Pacific Tuna Corporation safety policies include:

- Self-inflating work vests for all deck crew;
- First Aid and CPR training for all captains;
- "Adrift at Sea" life saving events participation;
- Drill conductor training for all captains;
- Hazard Analysis & Critical Control Points training;
- Global Maritime Distress and Safety System training.

In the case of Guam in 2012, South Pacific Tuna Corp. was mostly cited for violations stemming from expired safety documentation created by a delay in its annual inspection scheduling. Despite the expired documents, the foreign officers on board were licensed and had

been approved in accordance with regulation; the expired documentation was later reissued and the deficiency corrected. Although legislation was passed in 2012 that addressed these and other safety documentation issues, the official federal guidance was only issued in 2014 as Coast Guard headquarters staff worked with industry to develop that guidance. Under today's regulation and subsequent guidance, most of the 2012 citations against the company would not have been issued.

"South Pacific Tuna Corp. takes seriously the safety of our crew, which is why all of our foreign officers are fully certified and credentialed in accordance with Coast Guard policies under this program, our fisherman are abundantly trained, and every one of our vessels meet and exceed the 2014 U.S. government regulations," said Capt. Bobby Virissimo, vice president of Operations for South Pacific

Tuna Corp. and member of the Coast Guard-sponsored Commercial Fishing Safety Advisory Committee.

"It is a difficult task to operate efficiently, sustainably, and in cooperation with all parties on the high seas," added Hines. "To be successful, we must continue working closely with members of the Coast Guard, as well as all government agencies that are charged with ensuring the safety, sustainability, commerce of the industry. The viability of the United States within the Pacific fisheries may only be maintained when these important partnerships prosper."

South Pacific Tuna Corp. is a United States-based tuna vessel management company headquartered in San Diego, California. Its 14 U.S. flag tuna vessels fish in the Western Pacific under the rules and regulations outlined by the South Pacific Tuna Treaty. For more information, visit www.sopactuna.com. (PR)

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

March 25, 2006

NMC president withdraws bonus request

Citing the reduced budget of the Northern Marianas College, NMC president Tony V. Deleon Guerrero has withdrawn his request for his employment contract to be amended to give him a retirement severance bonus of \$24,000. Deleon Guerrero, in a letter he submitted to the Board of Regents during its Wednesday meeting, said his decision was in anticipation of the financial hardships that lie ahead for NMC and the CNMI government as a whole. "I personally feel that my decision to continue serving as the president of NMC is far more rewarding than the \$24,000 retirement bonus I would have received had I retired back in December 2005," Deleon Guerrero.

Bill banning alien workers from select positions awaits passage

The Northern Marianas Apprenticeship bill, which seeks to ban the hiring of foreign workers in certain skilled positions, is now awaiting the governor's approval. House Bill 15-27 was passed by the Legislature without an amendment. Gov. Benigno R. Fitial has 40 days to act on the bill. The measure will mandate the NMC to create an apprenticeship program and stop the hiring or renewal of foreign workers who have similar jobs as students certified under the training program.

March 25, 2007

3 students drown, 1 missing

Three Korean students drowned while another remains missing and is feared to have also died following a fellowship that turned tragic at the Forbidden Island Friday afternoon. The drowning victims were an 18-year-old female, a 24-year-old male, and a 20-year-old female. As of yesterday afternoon, a 19-year-old male was still missing and search and rescue operation was still ongoing, according to Department of Public Safety spokesperson Lei Ogumoro. Ogumoro said another 18-year-old boy was treated at the Commonwealth Health Center for minor scratches and laceration and was last reported in stable condition.

Sparse attendance at Covenant Day affair

The Covenant Day celebration yesterday afternoon drew sparse attendance at the American Memorial Park, with only a few people showing up for the two-hour ceremony. Despite this, the show went on, with the raising of over 50 flags representing the different national, state, territorial and U.S. service flags. The Saipan Southern High School JROTC cadets led the presentation of flags, accompanied by music played by the Pacific Winds Concert Band. Special guests included deputy assistant secretary for Insular Affairs David B. Cohen and OIA field representative Jeff Schorr. Saipan Intermediate School Class 1957 organized the ceremony, with alumnus Vicente N. Santos, who was also one of the Covenant negotiators, as guest speaker.

March 25, 2008

Over 400 medical records trapped inside IMC

The Island Medical Center says that there are over 400 medical health results trapped inside the clinic and rendered inaccessible due to IMC's suspension status. Island Medical Center owner Antony Glad said that since the Department of Public Health, suspended the clinic on March 4, he has been receiving numerous phone calls from people following up on their health results and medical charts. "I keep getting phone calls everyday and I really don't know what to tell them," Glad said. He shared that one of his major concerns are patients with medical prescriptions. The IMC doctor, Dr. Christine Brown, "cannot write out prescriptions for those patients who need prescription refills because their medical records are trapped in there," said Glad.

The devil will be in the details, says Reyes

Reacting to fresh assurances that S.2739 will not be detrimental to the CNMI economy, Gov. Benigno R. Fitial's press secretary Charles P. Reyes said that a bill's intent is usually different from its implementation. "Again, there's a lot of uncertainty. They have no regulations promulgated yet. The devil could be on the details. How can we agree on something that has no details yet?" he asked in an e-mail to the *Saipan Tribune*. Reyes' comments came after Senate Energy & Natural Resources spokesperson Bill Wicker said that S.2739, or the Consolidated Natural Resources Act of 2008, is sensitive to the plight of the CNMI and its people.

TO INCREASE PER PUPIL COST AT NMI PUBLIC SCHOOLS: 25 percent guaranteed appropriation for PSS sought

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Despite the meager increase in the Public School System's budget for this fiscal year, the fact remains that per student cost in Commonwealth public schools is the lowest among territories and school districts in the nation at less than \$3,000 per pupil.

For Education Commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan, the only way to elevate and improve PSS' ranking in this category is to ask for a bigger slice of the budget

pie from the government. There is pending legislation at the House of Representatives that intends to give public schools a higher guaranteed budget every fiscal year. House Legislative Initiative 18-12 seeks to amend Article 15, Section 1(e) of the Constitution to increase the guaranteed funding for PSS from the current 15 percent of the CNMI budget to 25 percent.

Sablan said PSS is pinning its hopes on this bill that is currently being entertained at the committee level.

For fiscal year 2013, PSS was allocated \$33 million. Years before, the system's local budget was even smaller, ranging from \$28 million to \$29 million.

"We're the only school district within entities whose per pupil cost is very, very low at only about \$3,000 per student compared nationwide with around \$9,000 per student cost and some \$6,000 per pupil cost in other territories," said Sablan, adding that CNMI-PSS is just next to American Samoa.

Using the PSS budget amount

of \$30 million, per child cost comes out to only \$2,600, among the lowest in the nation.

PSS has an enrollment of over 10,000 students in 19 public schools. Based on PSS records, six out of 10 children attending PSS come from families with incomes below the federal poverty guideline.

Compared to other Pacific islands and neighboring Guam, CNMI-PSS is at the bottom of school districts receiving local funding support from its government. Guam, it was learned,

allocates \$5,600 per child cost. U.S. Virgin Islands has a per-child cost of \$11,000.

"We're doing a lot for the very little that we get," said the commissioner, citing the continued growth in the number of students every year.

Also, despite the limited funding, Sablan said that PSS goes beyond what is expected of it: rigorous training for staff, implementation of a rigorous curriculum, and other key initiatives for public schools.

For fiscal year 2015, PSS

asked for \$40 million, primarily to restore 117 positions it needs. Majority are classroom teachers. If all 117 positions are filled, this would reduce the high student-to-teacher ratio in many schools and would get rid of substitute employees. Part of the budget proposal is also for the maintenance and repair of facilities.

"I hope our legislators understand why we're needing it... and I would certainly be more than happy to sit down with them on these issues," she said.

Fishery council considers hardships of Guam fishermen

TUMON, Guam—The Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council, which has authority over federally managed fisheries in Hawaii, American Samoa, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and the US Pacific remote island areas, concluded its four-day meeting in Tumon, Guam, on Friday.

The Council heard from Guam fishermen about ongoing cumulative impacts on their fishing communities. Lack of access to safe and unpolluted fishing grounds, shark depredation, rising fuel costs, lack of fisheries support, competition from citizens of the Federated States of Micronesia, and Endangered Species Act initiatives were among the plethora of complaints presented to the Council.

Manuel Duenas, president of the Guam Fishermen's Cooperative, said the situation is at the point where he is ready to quit fishing. He noted that shark depredation, as well as the cost for fuel and fishing supplies, has increased and is negatively impacting Guam's fishing community.

"We don't have an industry, it's a community," he said, noting that fishermen sell only a few fish to cover expenses and the rest is distributed to feed family and neighbors.

Aside from limited access to fishing grounds due to weather and geography, fishermen said the military, marine protected areas, and pollution significantly restrict their access to safe waters where they can fish. It

was noted that 13 persons have drowned in Guam since the Council's last meeting in October 2013, in part due to fishermen having to travel farther to reach permitted fishing areas, many times under inclement and unsafe conditions.

"Do not oppress the people who put food on the table," said Ernest T. Chargualaf, mayor of Merizo (Malessos). He stated that when Guam's marine preserves were established, there was supposed to be open rotation. He also said the Guam Department of Agriculture is spending more money addressing deer, which were imported to Guam, than it is on fish, which are a native food source.

Another impact is the ongoing competition with fishermen from FSM, who are allowed to reside in Guam and other areas of the United States as part of FSM's Compact of Free Association with the United States. Fishermen also worried about potential impacts from the proposed listing of 66 species of coral under the ESA, Apra Harbor dredging impacts on coral and fish habitat, and the ocean disposal site 15 miles offshore that may receive 1 million cubic yards of dredged material annually, among other concerns.

The council responded to the public comments, scientific presentations and advisory group recommendations with the following actions, among others:

■ To work with the appropriate Guam agencies to provide for adequate fishing opportuni-

ties through fishing infrastructure such as boat ramps in Ylig and Inarajan, as well as fishing aggregation devices, fishing platforms, fishing ramps and access areas in Hagatna, Agat, and Merizo.

■ To assist Guam Division of Aquatic and Wildlife Resources with issues related to FAD design, deployment and permits.

■ To request that the Guam Department of Agriculture provide access to the Guam marine preserves for the University of Guam's 4-H fish tagging project.

■ To recommend that the National Marine Fisheries Service prioritize cooperative shark research in the Marianas and provide funding and support for proposals for shark depredation studies.

■ To work with NMFS Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center and Guam to convene a data collection information workshop for fish vendors in Guam and provide assistance in developing an incentive program to enhance fishery data collection participation.

■ To support the efforts of and community-based management plan for coastal and marine resources developed by the Malessos community and to assist the mayor's office in implementation efforts as needed as well as community outreach efforts.

■ To facilitate dialogue with the village of Yigo, and other Guam villages in developing a plan to enhance the village fishing access infrastructure as well as to address safety at sea concerns.

■ To work with the government of Guam on addressing the impacts of fishing by Compact of Free Association country residents.

During the public comment period on non-agenda items, students from two Guam high schools and Guam Community College advocated for a Guam shark sanctuary. Council senior scientist Paul Dalzell talked to the students about environmental consequences of management decisions. Council chair Arnold Palacios thanked them for taking the time to participate in the council's public participatory process and noted that their comments are valued. (PR)

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Happy birthday Mommy Dyna Cabrera! Wishing you all the love, peace, joy, blessings, and good health! Greetings come from your grandkids: Althea, M.J., Miyiel, Maryiel, Ana, Mae, Derek, and Amber.

PROMO WINNER

Pacifica Insurance Underwriters, Inc. staff member Janel Pangelinan, right, presents a prize for a year of free auto insurance to the company's fourth lucky 40 for 40 Giveaway winner Robert Suzuki, left. Forty for forty means forty winners in celebration of forty years for a year of free auto insurance. Last drawing is slated for Dec. 15. You must be a policyholder of Pacifica to be eligible to win. For information about Pacifica's 40 for 40 giveaway log on to www.pacificains.com/fortyforforty or call 234-6267/7722/7310.

2014 Guam International Film Festival calls for entries

HAGATNA, Guam—The Guam International Film Festival has officially announced its open call for entries to begin today, for its fourth annual event scheduled to take place in September. Submission forms can be completed directly online at the official GIFF website, www.guamfilmfestival.org.

Deadlines to submit films for the 2013 Guam International Film Festival are:

- May 6, 2014 - Earlybird Postmark Deadline
- June 18, 2014 - Regular Deadline
- July 10, 2014 - Late Deadline
- July 21, 2014 - Extended Postmark Deadline

Categories

Festival categories for both feature-length and short films include Narrative, Documentary, Animation, Made in the Marianas, Music Video and Student Under 18. Submission fees are waived for entries that qualify

for the Made in the Marianas and Student Under 18 categories.

Works that are eligible for competition must have been completed after January 1, 2013. The submission form and complete information regarding eligibility and official entry rules for the 2014 Guam International Film Festival are available on the GIFF website at www.guamfilmfestival.org.

Notable talent

In its brief history, GIFF has already featured some of the most notable global film talent including Oscar winner Alex Gibney, 2014 Oscar nominee Jeffrey Karoff, 2013 Sundance winner O. Muel and Cannes Palme d'Or winner Raymond Red in addition to the best local and regional talent.

Community, Education and Entertainment

Founded by filmmakers Don and Kel Muna in 2011, the Guam

International Film Festival is an international cinema event exhibiting a dynamic source of cross-cultural artistic presence, bridging gaps among the U.S., Asia and the Pacific's multicultural population and region. GIFF is the first and only annual U.S. film festival in the western pacific. GIFF's mission is to foster cultural understanding through the art of cinema, while providing opportunities for local talent to flourish through the international cinema market.

Past GIFF Festivals have also included works from Emmy winner Sasha Alpert, Adam Brody, Gwen Stefani, Jay Duplass, Richard Gere, Stan Lee and Roger Corman as well as top Asian talent such as Kazuhiro Soda (Japan), Benito Bautista (Philippines), Sang-Cheol Lee, Ah-Ga Shin (Korea) and Yeh Tien-Lun (Taiwan).

For more information, visit GIFF at www.guamfilmfestival.org, Facebook, Twitter and YouTube. (GIFF)

Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune
THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XXIV, Issue No. 59

Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
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Fellow baby boomers, we have a job to do—entitlement reform

By D.J. TICE

Star Tribune (Minneapolis)



D.J. Tice is a columnist for the Minneapolis Star Tribune. Readers may send him email at Doug.Tice@startribune.com.

My baby boom generation has always dreamed of transforming society. In callow youth, we felt a calling to bring a more enlightened consciousness to America.

That epic self-confidence has faded for many of us. And yet, the longing to do something large lingers somewhere in nearly every boomer heart.

Fact is, as the Woodstock generation enters elderhood, the spirit of the '60s is hard to miss in, among other things, fast-changing attitudes toward gay rights, marijuana and America's oversized role in the world.

For better or worse (or both), the boomers' hour of maximum influence has come. And dead ahead lies a worthy challenge to our generational self-image as agents of unselfish change.

As the enormous weight of our generation's retirement takes hold throughout America's economy and public finances, it will fall uniquely to the boomer generation to transform the paralyzing politics of entitlement reform in America—if it is ever to be done.

This one really is about us, and an awakening to the need for a new generational contract could be a chance for true generational greatness. Maybe that's why it's a long shot.

Change, make no mistake, will come to the federal government's gigantic programs devoted to supporting the aged—chiefly Social Security and Medicare. Arithmetic demands change, and its demands eventually get met.

But only a new attitude among the elderly would allow America's political leaders to make the inevitable adjustments soon enough, and thoughtfully enough, to minimize the worst pain for those who can least afford it, and to head off bitter generational conflict.

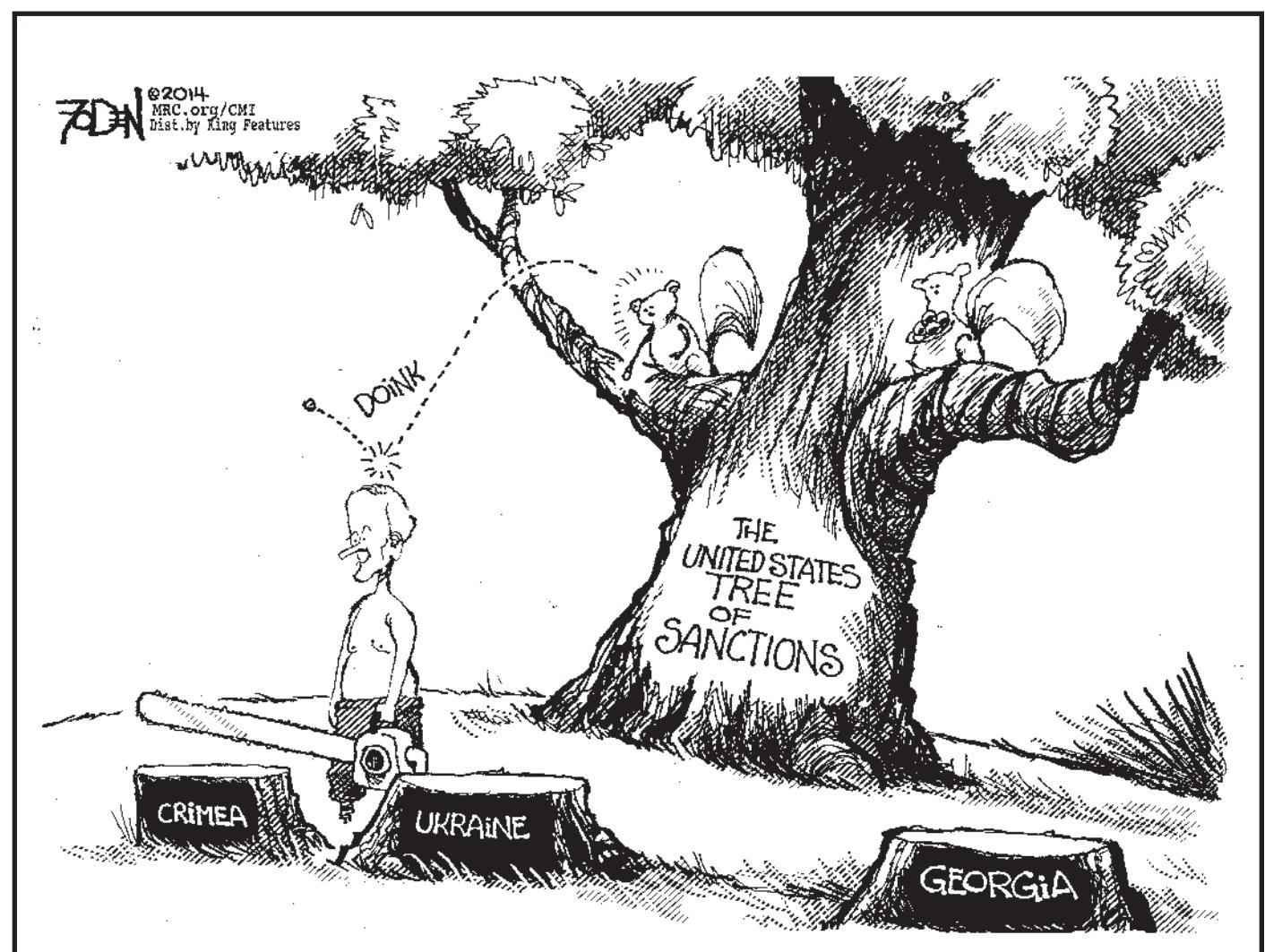
We've already waited too long, and there's no sign of imminent progress. In the budget proposal he released several weeks ago, President Obama abandoned a modest idea for reducing future cost-of-living increases in Social Security benefits, one he had offered in years past. Meanwhile, Republicans continue to denounce as "gutting Medicare" provisions within Obamacare to rein in some of that program's ever-accelerating costs, while Democrats greet every GOP Medicare reform idea the same way.

In recent years, almost every discussion of entitlement reform has been accompanied by assurances that no changes will affect retired Americans or those "near retirement"—a guarantee that virtually rules out adequate adjustments.

Settling on the best combination of benefit reductions and tax increases will be traumatically difficult. But there is no doubt that some such combination will be necessary. Both Social Security and Medicare are on unsustainable financial paths. Medicare is ultimately the much bigger problem because containing its future costs means controlling health care costs generally, a riddle far from being solved. But for that very reason reform is essential across the whole system that supports the aged.

At least, it's essential if boom generation Americans feel any duty

See **BOOMERS** on Next Page



All you need is love, and a lasting legacy

By JOHN MARKON

THE FREE LANCE-STAR (FREDERICKSBURG, VA.)

LONGVIEW, Wash.—Fifty years after their first appearance in the United States seems an adequate amount of time to assess the cultural and musical legacy of the Beatles. The 15-year-old girls from Brooklyn and Queens who shrieked and swooned at first sight of them on "The Ed Sullivan Show" were last seen cashing Social Security checks. Hey, they're 65. When they swoon these days, concerned relatives call 911.

It's been a while.

And it bears remembering that it's always been presumed the Beatles would have a legacy. They were lavishly celebrated in their own time and didn't need to wait until the end of their era to hear their sound and their lyrics praised as significant and enduring, on some level far above anything else in the realm of popular music.

Reacting to the band's 1970 break-up, one tough-guy critic put it this way in *Rolling Stone* magazine:

"Like Picasso, (the Beatles) broke through the constraints of their time period. In the art form of popular music, no one will ever be more creative, more revolutionary and more distinctive."

One contemporary, mass-market reviewer of "St. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band" (1966), felt confident in immediately dubbing it the "Citizen Kane" of rock albums." There was speculation and argument over the Beatles' legacy while the Beatles were still playing together and speaking to each other. It was always assumed they'd leave a large legacy.

And they did, even though it's diminished by the massive legal quagmire that continues to surround their work. Officials at satellite radio provider Sirius/XM were quoted in 2012 as saying their

long-desired all-Beatles channel might still be 10 years away. The Beatles' film projects are surrounded by licensing issues and tend to go unseen. Their records were unavailable to iTunes' worldwide customer base until 2010.

In 1964, of course, no one in the United States had ever heard anything quite like them. Here, they more or less dropped out of the sky. In Britain, however, their sound was being developed on multiple fronts, as pop music had been moving in the general directions of "big beat" 4/4 time and an electrified rock guitar sound since the late 1950s. A group called Johnny Kidd & the Pirates found the "British Invasion Sound" in 1960, hitting the U.K. top 10 with "Shakin' All Over," a song that gets classified and played today in the U.S. as a British Invasion hit even though it was four full years in front of the actual invasion.

The world was spared "Piratemania" by Kidd's obvious limitations as a vocalist and his constant shuffling of the musicians behind him, which led to his inability to capitalize on "Shakin' All Over" by touring and recording. Kidd & the Pirates fired a parting broadside in 1961 with "A Shot of Rhythm & Blues," another sharp, mid-'60s-sounding rocker, but were soon relegated to the musical counterpart of Davy Jones' locker.

In Britain, the Beatles were surfing in front of a large wave of developing rock bands—many of them soon to become famous in the United States. By the end of 1965, the Rolling Stones, the Who, the Searchers, the Moody Blues, Gerry & the Pacemakers, Freddie and the Dreamers, Georgie Fame & the Blue Flames, Wayne Fontana & the Mindbenders, the Animals, the Tremeloes, Peter & Gordon, Chad & Jeremy, Manfred Mann, Donovan and the Dave Clark 5 would all have major American hits. Only Clark's group was formed in response to the success of the Beatles.



See **LEGACY** on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Kandidatun politika

Manadan kandidatu man-halom na sakan para difirientes siyan publiku. Entalu' man-nuebu yan bihu humatme redondun estrakadan politika. Esta ti huhulat ni minegaiña gi halom kolat todus. Mauleg ta ke lie' haf' gaige gi kestat kada unu.

Esta in' hiñgog haye siha pilean para gobietnu. Guaha fitme na pisu 'nai tumotohge, guaha abarambau haligiña sa' ti fitme pisuña, guaha pa'gu ha pepega banderaña, yan guaha sin bandera temporariamente.

I matata'choñ na kandidatu kumu guiya presente na gobietnu i mas makat ha fafana' na asuntun linahyan siha. Ha inklusu pinpin' na apas kandet, ma-utut pagamienton man-ritirau, insurance hinemuñi' ni umutot mas pagamienton todou empleau piot i man-ritirau, hatsadan mantension familia yan otru siha potput na obligasion kada familia.

I pumalu debi u sañgan sin ditension haf' planun niha fuera de mata'lun mañgañgas mismu problema ni hafafana' i publiku pa'gu. Puntu: Haf' satbasionmu gi mas man-didog na probleman i tautau siha. Muñga marepite haf' problema sa' ha dimemoria i publiku haf' na taiguine pinadesisña.

Guaha oppan na'aña, lagse' yan hatme gi che'chu' linahyan. Guaha nuebu na tinituhon ni debi u pokate anaku' chalan. Guaha u finatinas. I pumalu ti u fan felis karegan niha.

I lehislatura kritikat na siya siha pot rason na mas te'ug yan seriosu probleman iya Marianas. Debi i para u talag halom u listu yan kapas kinemprendeña seriosu na asuntun linahyan. Muñga hit ni ayu i para u ta lon umapotsu' probleman i tautau siha. Debi u tuñgu haf' i asuntu gigon ha gacha' i edda' estrakada ya ha tutuhon malagu.

Asuntun man-ritirau

'Nai hu katkula kuantu sumuha ginan ma-utut pagamienton man-ritirau ni pinalo'pu' ni otru siha hatsada tat kumu insurance hinemuñi', kandet yan presiun nefñkanu', diberas ti hoñgiyuñ i kantida ni

LEGACY

From Page 10

The biggest American hit of 1963, portentously, was "Louie, Louie," recorded in the spring of that year in Portland, Ore., by both the Kingsmen—who had the big, national hit—and Paul Revere & the Raiders, who were destined for a more lucrative career. "Louie, Louie," in either version, is an early Beatles "formula" hit, a non-black dance band with three or four pieces interpreting a 1950s R&B single.

"Surfin' U.S.A.," the Beach Boys' rewrite of Chuck Berry's "Sweet Little Sixteen," is similar in those respects and also was released in the spring of 1963.

Musically, the American pop audience was primed for the Beatles, who tended to shock and appall parents and grandparents but were readily accepted by teenagers, who'd already displayed an appetite for what the Beatles would provide.

The Beatles struck many adults as long-haired, smart-mouthed English punks with rebellious attitudes, which made their music and their haircuts all the more attractive to young people. The Fab Four had a wicked sense of humor. One favorite Beatles parlor trick was taking lyrics that were threatening, violent or darkly confessional and laying them over a snappy, lightweight pop melody. This thread runs from "I'm a Loser" to "I'm Looking Through You" to "Help!" to "Maxwell's Silver Hammer" with numerous stops along the way. Eventually, they abandoned saucy wit in favor of acid-tipped assaults on their original manager (Brian Epstein), money-handlers in general and each other. They were good at those, too.

Focusing on them as an embodiment of the change and turmoil associated with the 1960s probably assigns them too large a role. Think "Sixties Symbols" and the Beatles are one of many that come to mind. They often struck anti-war themes in their music and interviews, but they were hardly alone among entertainers in that respect. Their specific opposition to the Vietnam War may have been controversial in the United States, but it was a majority opinion in Britain and most of Europe. Their notably public experiments with LSD and Eastern mysticism were abandoned not long after they started.

In 1966, they literally turned their backs on their fans by abandoning live dates and becoming a studio-only act. The official

sumuha ginan monedan familia.

Hu konsidera otru man-ritirau ni man-baratu mas pagamien tun niha kuantu man-initut ni otru siha hatsada. Ti komprendiyun lau repara i man-sabiun' hegsu' I Deni' sa' todou man-a'atog kulan fugun manog.

Esta i haguhuan siniñgon mahlog ya ti apasiguayon i sa'pet gi tau tau siha. Teteñnan para u fan mahatme hulu' i maneñgheñg na offisian hegsu' I Deni'. Chatmiyu fan hineheñgañg 'an mattu binibun publiku guine na eskalera. Hamyu mismu prumepara este na kondision. Padesa haf' mamamaila'.

Gi halom mehnalom

Mampos ha estotbayu' i eskaleran asuntun linahyan ni megati lumi'e kumu presisu estake ha balutan hit i problema. Taya' planon adelantu soluke masaulag kinibrutu i asuntu siha. Estague' na halachai hit pa'gu bumalas i hagas man-ma-upus na asunto siha.

Poresu na sumen presisu na in' ayeg mauleg haye para u representa hit piot gi administrasion yan lehislatura. Taya' esta kampu para "buente" 'sino ma-upus asuntun publiku pot ni siha mismu ti makomprende hafa mafafana'. Lau man-atrebisau gi ti fafayen niha. Che'chu' muron! Nahoñg na na'gao niyog esta hu putae' i babue.

Pesonatmente, bai' tatiye maseha un' kandidatu ni kumonbensiyu' na ha komprende, sin pustura, haf' che'chu' linahyan. Muñga mafa' un' tuñgu' i ti un' tuñgu' sa' ni mas demenos hau yan un' bachet ni pumpipet otru siha bachet guatu gi puntan kantit. Haf' mohon?

Uttimu pokat

'Nai mattu i dos amko' gi puntan hogsu' gi sanpapa' gi Chalan as Litu', demeskansa ya ma-atan tatte i hegsu' ni hagas mapokate, sakan pot sakan, para i lanchun niha.

Esta i dos saina amko' ya makat mafedesu i hagas chalan i lanchu. Buente 'nai dumeskansa kulan madespide pot uttimu besis

rationale was that Beatles music had become so technically advanced and such a product of the studio that it could no longer be performed live.

After the break-up, however, all four ex-Beatles eventually did some touring, occasionally performing versions of the songs they once insisted didn't belong on stage. Maybe the guys were just tired of gigging. Once a great dance band, the Beatles recorded very little danceable music after 1966.

Individually, they all left large impressions.

John Lennon gave the group its edge. Once the Beatles broke up, the most common complaint about their output as individual musicians was that it had lost its weight. Lennon, the only one of the four who showed much enthusiasm for social commentary during their days as the Beatles, supplied the anger, the growl and the gravity.

Paul McCartney and George Harrison were among the most talented popular musicians of any era—as both players and songwriters. McCartney was always either setting trends or jumping ahead of them. His "Got to Get You Into My Life" (1963), anticipated the "horn band" sound by a full five years. Frank Sinatra called Harrison's "Something" (1969), the greatest love song he'd ever sung. On a few Beatles recordings, McCartney plays every instrument. Harrison's short, stunning, "just off the beat" solo on "I Call Your Name" is often mentioned as one of the building blocks for the Jamaican reggae sound.

Drummer Ringo Starr spent eight years as a Beatle and was given one solo—on "The End" at the close of the Abbey Road medley. He produced a genre classic.

On the stage or in the studio, there wasn't much they couldn't do.

Lennon seemed to have a sense that there was a little less to the Beatles' "significance" than met the eye. As much as he liked to shock and challenge any listener, Lennon usually played it straight when asked to react to the idea that many of his lyrics would be held up in the decades to come as the most notable poetry of the 1960s.

"Rock lyrics aren't poetry," Lennon tended to say. "Doggerel, maybe."

And then he'd bark like a dog.

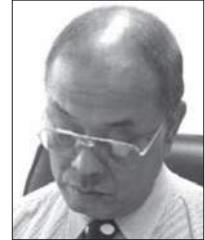
The joke was on someone, but never the Beatles.

John Markon is the editor of The Daily News of Longview, Wash. Readers may send him email at jmarkon@tdn.com. He wrote this for The Free Lance-Star in Fredericksburg, Va.

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.

Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.



chalan i lanchu.

Ha pachayu' ayu na despedida. Apnam yan satton na sakrifisiu pot prebension familia. Ni unabes 'nai dumeskansa fuera de 'an Dameñgo. Un' pupueñge hu adiñgane. Sumen magof i dos saina na man-felis todou famaguon niha. "I mattu gi lanchu ya masquette, pues suetteña".

Matutuhon fina' dikiki' na hatdin gi hiyuñg guma' para tane'. Siñia ma-kontinua mananom pot hagas hayun niha. Mauleg na tane' yan etsisiu lau esta ti u famokat hulu' gi hegsu' As Litu.

■ ■ ■

Ilegña amighu Magoo na bai'na' halom na'anhu kumu kandidaton sanhilu' na guma'. Hu lapbla tatte na trabiha kababales ha' hinassoghu ya ti listuyu' dumaña'e i sahñge na tropan man-sabiú. Dispues, haye para u famulan gi sagua' Chumaleg.

Mauleg na offisio man-akonseha publikamente offisiat publiku piot ya sumen presisu na u fan mapatañg ya u fan masugon tatte gi lugat niha. Estague' mina' presisu guatdian publiku ni libianu umadiñgan tunas gi haf' asunto' ta siha.

Guaha 'nai makat, lau estague' fafayihu ya magofyu' ni todus bisisio. Ni unu hu dage sa' frañkuyu' gi inekspresian hinasoghu pot interes proteksion linahyan.

BOOMERS

From Page 10

to reduce the burdens bearing down on their children and grandchildren.

Only last Sunday, a front-page *Minneapolis Star Tribune* story described the damaged prospects economists see for young workers entering the labor market in the wake of the Great Recession. It's only the latest signal that an era of slower economic growth, sluggish wages, soaring college costs, and the whole, well-documented squeeze on the middle class has left younger generations ill-equipped to keep every last promise their elders have made to themselves.

It's not that boomers approaching retirement lack for problems of their own. Earlier this month the *Minneapolis Star Tribune* re-published online a Bloomberg News editorial rightly warning that America's "long expected retirement crisis" is "becoming a brutal reality" as inadequate savings, shrunken pensions, and disappointing investment returns and home values combine to confront many with pinched and postponed retirements.

This is all the more reason that the unavoidable changes ahead in entitlement programs ought to be undertaken gradually and carefully, not abruptly and in a crisis atmosphere that will only deepen if action is much further delayed.

It might even help to acknowledge something often overlooked: that the boomer generation has already sacrificed, where entitlement programs are concerned, for the well-being of another generation. Reports from both the Urban Institute and the Congressional Budget Office confirm that at least in the case of Social Security, World War II generation retirees have been receiving far more handsome returns on their lifetime tax contributions than their boomer offspring will, even without further changes.

But easing hardships for earlier generations of elderly was a key purpose of these programs when they were created. It is something the Sixties generation can be proud of. It is not a reason to delay lightening the load for those younger than we—who played little role in whatever errors may have been made over the years.

Could boomers really detoxify the politics of entitlement reform, giving politicians more freedom to calmly explore and debate solutions without facing a reflexive backlash from older voters? It's hard to be optimistic, of course.

But few issues are more squarely in our hands. And as perhaps we've learned with other debates, transformations happen one change of heart at a time.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.pr.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Mostly sunny with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲ 88° ▼ 76°	▲ 88° ▼ 76°	▲ 88° ▼ 77°	▲ 88° ▼ 76°	▲ 88° ▼ 76°

Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Partly Cloudy	▲ 87 ▼ 78
Palau	Showers	▲ 87 ▼ 76
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲ 88 ▼ 78
Chuuk	Partly Cloudy	▲ 87 ▼ 80
Pohnpei	Showers	▲ 84 ▼ 78
Kosrae	Showers	▲ 84 ▼ 78
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲ 86 ▼ 80

Around The Globe

Auckland	Partly Cloudy	▲ 70 ▼ 64
Beijing	Sunny	▲ 81 ▼ 48
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	▲ 74 ▼ 67
Honolulu	Showers	▲ 81 ▼ 70
London	Showers	▲ 49 ▼ 36
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲ 73 ▼ 55
Manila	Cloudy	▲ 88 ▼ 79
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	▲ 75 ▼ 57
Miami	Thundershowers	▲ 82 ▼ 70
New York	Mostly Sunny	▲ 36 ▼ 30
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	▲ 64 ▼ 55
Paris	Showers	▲ 51 ▼ 38
Pusan	Showers	▲ 62 ▼ 53
Rome	Showers	▲ 54 ▼ 44
Salem	Partly Cloudy	▲ 71 ▼ 44
San Francisco	Sunny	▲ 61 ▼ 47
Seoul	Cloudy	▲ 65 ▼ 46
Tokyo	Mostly Sunny	▲ 69 ▼ 50
Washington, DC	Sunny	▲ 43 ▼ 31

Tides

Sunrise/Sunset

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	6:18 AM	6:28 PM	Today	1:17 AM	1:03 PM
Wednesday	6:17 AM	6:29 PM	Wednesday	2:12 AM	2:03 PM
Thursday	6:16 AM	6:29 PM	Thursday	3:04 AM	3:04 PM
Friday	6:16 AM	6:29 PM	Friday	3:54 AM	4:04 PM
Saturday	6:15 AM	6:29 PM	Saturday	4:42 AM	5:02 PM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

ISLAND SNAPSHOT

Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.

BUSINESS

Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.

SAMUT SARI

Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.

TRAVELOGUE

Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.

CAMPUS BULLETIN

Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.

Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).

Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.

Photos must have been taken in the last two months.

For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

the name of contact person, and a phone number.

Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

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To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

POLICY

The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.

The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.

For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JANUARY 25, 2014

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA5070	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA5068	8:40am	9:30am	Daily
UA5039	1:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota
UA5038	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6
UA5078	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily
UA5072	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

UA5039	1:35pm	2:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7
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ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA5039	2:40pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7
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SAIPAN-OSSAKA (KIX)

OZ119	4:00am	6:40am	Daily
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SAIPAN-MARITA (NRT)

DL287	6:00am	8:40am	Daily
DL297	4:30pm	7:20pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	1, 4, 5, 7
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SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ606	2:10am	6:00am	1
OZ602	2:20am	5:50am	3
OZ606	2:40am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ603	3:30am	7:20am	4, 7 (will increase eff Jan 29)
D2104	2:00pm	5:30pm	6
OZ604	3:20pm	7:10pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7
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SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

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Navy honors Guam law enforcement for support in rob case



U.S. NAVY/JOANNA DELFIN



Rear Adm. Tilghman Payne, commander, Joint Region Marianas, presents Guam Attorney General Leonardo Rapadas and Guam Chief of Police Fred Bordallo with an appreciation plaque during an awards presentation at the command headquarters in Asan on March 20.

ASAN, Guam—The U.S. Navy recognized Guam's law enforcement for their assistance in the Nimitz Hill home invasion robbery case during a ceremony at Joint Region Marianas headquarters in Asan on March 20.

Rear Adm. Tilghman Payne, commander of JRM, presented a plaque of appreciation to the Office of the Attorney General of Guam and Guam Police Department. Payne said the successful closure of the case illustrated the important partnership between Guam's military and

local government agencies.

"Guam is home to thousands of service members and their families and many live in communities throughout the island," Payne said. "This crime was indiscriminate and the criminals didn't just take advantage of a military family, but a member of the Guam community. As part of the Guam community, we greatly appreciate the tremendous support we received from the attorney general's office and GPD that led to the successful prosecution of those responsible

for this terrible crime."

Attorney General Leonardo Rapadas accepted the plaque on behalf of his office.

"We just try and do our jobs, and to get recognition like this really solidifies the relationship between our communities," Rapadas said. "We don't want to distinguish between the military and the civilian communities. We all live on the same island and we are all working for the same thing."

Naval Criminal Investigative Service also presented a plaque to GPD Chief of Police

Rear Adm. Tilghman Payne, commander, Joint Region Marianas, joins staff from the Guam Attorney General's Office and the Guam Police Department for a photo during an awards presentation at the command headquarters in Asan on March 20.

Fred Bordallo.

In the early hours of April 20, 2013, a military dependent

was found by her roommates bound, beaten, and unconscious in her home on Nimitz Hill. In-

vestigations led officers to three suspects, who have since been convicted for the crime.



U.S. NAVY/JOANNA DELFIN

Tony Cox, Naval Criminal Investigative Service special agent in charge of Guam and Hawaii, presents Guam Chief of Police Fred Bordallo with an appreciation plaque during an awards presentation at the Joint Region Marianas headquarters in Asan on March 20.

Delta volunteers, Habitat build 10 homes in PH

»More than 90 employees make up Delta's Force for Global Good in Philippine capital

ATLANTA and MANILA, Philippines—Delta Air Lines and Habitat for Humanity International joined forces on March 7-16, to help build 10 Habitat homes in Quezon City, outside the capital of Manila, as part of Delta's Force for Global Good program to effect positive local and global change. This year's volunteers come from 16 cities throughout the U.S. and Canada.

"Delta has been serving Manila, Philippines, for more than 60 years, and we are strongly committed to the communities we serve," said Vinay Dube, Delta's senior vice president – Asia Pacific. "A total of 90 employees, retirees and customers, including 40 local Manila employees, will be building homes in Quezon City, the largest city of metropolitan Manila."

"Giving back to the communities where Delta people live and work is a civic obligation and an

integral part of our company's culture," said Tad Hutcheson, Delta's vice president – Community Affairs. "Our longstanding relationship with Habitat for Humanity has given us the opportunity to build more than 100 affordable homes around the world."

While building the 10 new homes, Delta volunteers will work side by side with the families who will live in the new community—called Bistekville 4—when it is completed. The structures will be built to resist earthquakes, hurricanes and floods and will be primarily made from concrete block, which will require minimal ongoing maintenance for the new owners.

For a second consecutive year, Delta volunteers were joined by Dan DeRiemer of Roswell, Ga., a Delta SkyMiles Diamond Medallion member who bid a record 556,000 miles

through Delta's SkyMiles Online Auction to win the opportunity to participate in the build with his wife, Laura.

Delta employees from around the globe use vacation time and pay a portion of their expenses to volunteer on the international builds and help those in need of simple, decent and affordable housing, while also taking the opportunity to learn more about the country and its culture. Delta has participated in similar projects in Chile, China, Dominican Republic, Ghana, Haiti, India, Japan, Mexico, South Africa and Thailand.

"We are very appreciative of Delta's support," said Charlie Ayco, CEO of Habitat Philippines. "We are honored to be chosen as the host for Delta's annual international build and look forward to partnering together to help families obtain safe and affordable housing."

Delta has supported Habitat for Humanity for more than a decade and strengthened the partnership in 2006 by becoming a national partner and unveiling the first 767-300 featuring a unique Habitat for Humanity livery and a Delta Force for Global Good decal. The special livery helps raise awareness of Habitat for Humanity's global work and highlights the efforts of employee participation in Delta's Force for Global Good.

Delta operates daily flights from Manila to Tokyo-Narita and Nagoya-Centrair, where customers can connect to daily flights to the U.S. More than 150 employees are based in the Philippines. Delta is committed to supporting the Philippines community, a country that Delta has served for more than 60 years. During the past 10 years, Delta has sponsored a scholarship program at Concordia College Manila to support underprivileged students and recently partnered with Ayala Foundation, a Manila-based nonprofit organization, through the SkyWish charity program thus allowing customers to donate miles to support its efforts. (Delta)

Business

Pilots' mental health a concern amid jet mystery

DALLAS (AP)—Reinforced doors with keypad entries. Body scanners and pat-downs. Elaborate crew maneuvers when a pilot has to use the restroom. All those tactics are designed to keep dangerous people out of the cockpit. But what if the pilot is the problem?

With no answers yet in the disappearance of Malaysia Airlines Flight 370; investigators have said they're considering many options: hijacking, sabotage, terrorism or catastrophic equipment failure. Nobody knows if the pilots are heroes who tried to save a crippled airliner or if one collaborated with hijackers or was on a suicide mission.

Whatever the outcome, the mystery has raised concerns about whether airlines and governments do enough to make sure that pilots are mentally fit to fly.

"One of the most dangerous things that can happen is the rogue captain," said John Gadzinski, a Boeing 737 captain and aviation-safety consultant. "If you get somebody who - for whatever reason - turns cancerous and starts going on their own agenda, it can be a really bad situation."

Malaysia Airlines said this week that its pilots take psychological tests during the hiring process.

"We will obviously look into all these and see whether we

can strengthen, tighten all the various entry requirements and examinations," CEO Ahmad Jauhari Yahya said. He did not describe the tests.

Many U.S. airlines also perform mental health screenings when pilots and crew apply for jobs.

"The airlines have a lot of data on what a successful pilot looks like, and the mental aspect is a big part of that," says Brad Tate, a pilot for a leading U.S. airline. He said he's known applicants who were rejected because of their performance on a standardized mental test.

"I have never once flown with somebody who I questioned their mental health," Tate says.

Once a pilot is hired, however, U.S. airlines rarely if ever test a pilot again for mental health, say several experienced pilots. According to Federal Aviation Administration rules, U.S. pilots must pass a physical exam annually or every six months, depending on their age, but there is no specific requirement for a mental-health test. Buried in 333 pages of instructions, the FAA tells doctors that they should "form a general impression of the emotional stability and mental state" of the pilot.

The FAA does require pilots to report any use of prescription drugs, substance abuse, arrests for drunken driving, "mental disorders of any sort" and if they have

attempted suicide. Some conditions disqualify a person from being an airline pilot, including bipolar disease, a "severe" and repeated personality disorder, and psychosis. To a large degree,

though, pilots are on the honor system. If they don't tell their doctor or check a box on a government form that they're depressed or suicidal, there is no certainty anyone will ever find out.



In this March 23, 2014 photo, a woman walks past a message board for passengers aboard a missing Malaysia Airlines plane, at a shopping mall in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. AP

Health law birth control coverage before justices

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Obama administration and its opponents are renewing the Supreme Court battle over President Barack Obama's health care law in a case that pits the religious rights of employers against the rights of women to the birth control of their choice.

Two years after the entire law survived the justices' review by a single vote, the court is hearing arguments Tuesday in a religion-based challenge from family-owned companies that object to covering certain contraceptives in their health plans

as part of the law's preventive care requirement.

Health plans must offer a range of services at no extra charge, including all forms of birth control for women that have been approved by federal regulators.

Some of the nearly 50 businesses that have sued over covering contraceptives object to paying for all forms of birth control. But the companies involved in the high court case are willing to cover most methods of contraception, as long as they can exclude drugs or devices that the govern-

ment says may work after an egg has been fertilized.

The largest company among them, Hobby Lobby Stores Inc., and the Green family that owns it, say their "religious beliefs prohibit them from providing health coverage for contraceptive drugs and devices that end human life after conception."

Oklahoma City-based Hobby Lobby has more than 15,000 full-time employees in more than 600 crafts stores in 41 states. The Greens are evangelical Christians who also own Mardel, a Christian bookstore chain.

The other company is Conestoga Wood Specialties Corp. of East Earl, Pa., owned by a Mennonite family and employing 950 people in making wood cabinets.

The administration says a victory for the companies would prevent women who work for them from making decisions about birth control based on what's best for their health, not whether they can afford it. The government's supporters point to research showing that nearly one-third of women would change their contraceptive if cost were not an issue; a very effective means of birth control, the intrauterine device, can cost up to \$1,000.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Malaysia Airlines jet in emergency landing in HK

HONG KONG (AP)—A Malaysia Airlines flight from Kuala Lumpur to Seoul has made an emergency landing in Hong Kong after a generator failed. Hong Kong's airport says firefighters were put on standby for the arrival of the Airbus A330-300, which landed without inci-

dent just before 3 a.m. on Monday. Malaysia Airlines says in a statement that flight MH066 was diverted to the southern Chinese city after the main generator supplying normal electrical power failed. However, the jet's auxiliary power unit was able to continue supplying power.

Wendy's rolls out mobile payment in US

restaurants

NEW YORK (AP)—Wendy's is rolling out a program that lets customers pay using their smartphones, following a similar plan unveiled by Burger King this week. The Wendy's Co., based in Dublin, Ohio, has been testing the mobile payment option over the past year and said the majority of its roughly 5,800 U.S. locations

are now ready to accept the payments. The move reflects a push by fast-food chains to court younger customers by tapping into the attachment they have to their phones. "If they want to come in and give us business, we want to allow them to pay the way they want to pay," Craig Bahner, chief marketing officer for Wendy's, said in a phone interview.

Reporting time-clock manipulation could be a career risk

YOUR OFFICE COACH

By MARIE G. MCINTYRE

McClatchy-Tribune News Service



Marie G. McIntyre is a workplace coach and the author of "Secrets to Winning at Office Politics." Send in questions and get free coaching tips at <http://www.yourofficecoach.com>, or follow her on Twitter @ officecoach.

QUESTION: My co-workers have figured out how to manipulate the time clock so they don't have to put in a full day's work. Our boss never keeps regular hours either, so the staff is just following his example. Because the company is headquartered in another state, upper management doesn't pay much attention to our small office.

Although I believe it's wrong to steal time from the company, I'm beginning to feel like a fool for working all my hours. I would like to report this problem, but I'm reluctant to rat out my co-workers. Do you have any suggestions?

ANSWER: First of all, you are not a fool. You're an honest person who happens to work with a bunch of cheaters, so kudos to you for having a strong moral compass. Unfortunately, however, being right doesn't always make it easy to decide what to do.

One possibility is to present this issue not as staff misconduct, but as an administrative problem. Instead of calling out your colleagues, you might simply advise the appropriate person that the attendance tracking system is not reporting hours accurately for your office. The recipient of this report can then decide what to do with it.

Attendance is typically overseen by human resources, so that may be the best place to send the information. If personal contact seems too difficult or risky, outline your concerns in an anonymous letter to the department head. Even though unsigned complaints are frequently ignored, a specific system problem is likely to be investigated.

Before taking any action, however, you should carefully weigh the pros and cons, especially since your boss might be involved in this time clock scam. Monitoring the staff is not your responsibility, so if acting as a whistleblower could put your job in jeopardy, then keeping quiet is a perfectly acceptable choice.

Q: I recently hired an employee who tries to control every situation. "Megan" frequently tells me that she is accustomed to being in charge because she has held leadership roles in the past. She routinely ignores my instructions and pays no attention to deadlines.

Megan is also very disrespectful to the volunteers who donate their time to our organization. She orders them around and becomes confrontational if they question her. When I have spoken to Megan about this, she always says the volunteer was at fault. How do you manage this kind of person?

A: Megan sounds like a classic "power-grabber." Power-grabbers hate giving up control, so they automatically resent anyone who has authority over them. These employees only respect confident, authoritative managers, so you need to establish clear expectations for Megan and hold her accountable if she fails to meet them.

A greater concern, however, is Megan's disturbing treatment of volunteers. Unless she can demonstrate a more professional and courteous attitude, she should not be allowed to work with them. And if Megan is still in her probationary period, you may have sufficient evidence to conclude that she should not be working there at all.

Nation

Washington landslide death toll doubles to 8

ARLINGTON, Wash. (AP)—Searchers found five more bodies Sunday in the tangled sludge of a massive landslide in rural Washington state, bringing the death toll to at least eight from the wall of debris that swept through a small riverside neighborhood.

Snohomish County sheriff's Lt. Rob Palmer said four more bodies were discovered late Sunday. Earlier in the day, authorities said one body had been found on the debris field. Three people were already confirmed dead on Saturday.

More people remained missing, and authorities said the number was "fluid." Earlier Sunday, they said it was at

Deadly mudslide

As of March 23, rescuers say at least 18 people are missing in the wake of a mudslide in northwest Washington that killed three people Saturday.



Source: The Seattle Times, Los Angeles Times

least 18, but that count came before additional bodies were discovered.

The 1-square-mile mudslide that struck Saturday morning also critically injured several people and destroyed about 30 homes.

Crews were able to get to the muddy, tree-strewn area after geologists flew over in a helicopter and determined it was safe enough for emergency responders and technical rescue personnel to search for possible survivors, Snohomish County Fire District 21 Chief Travis Hots said Sunday evening.

"We didn't see or hear any signs of life out there today," he said, adding that they did not search the entire debris field, only drier areas safe to traverse.

Despite that, Hots said crews were still in a "search and rescue mode. It has not gone to a recovery mode at this time."

He said the search would continue until nightfall, at which time conditions become too dangerous.

Before crews could get onto

the debris field late Sunday morning, they looked for signs of life by helicopter. Authorities initially said it was too dangerous to send rescuers out on foot.

Rescuers' hopes of finding more survivors were buoyed late Saturday when they heard people yelling for help, but they were unable to reach anyone. The soupy mud was so thick and deep that searchers had to turn back.

"We have this huge square-mile mudflow that's basically like quicksand," Hots said Sunday.

The slide wiped through what neighbors described as a former fishing village of small homes—some nearly 100 years old.

As the search for the missing continued, authorities said some may have been able to get out on their own. The number unaccounted for could change because some people may have been in cars and on roads when the slide hit just before 11 a.m. Saturday, Hots said.

Officials described the mudslide as "a big wall of mud

and debris." It blocked about a mile of State Route 530 near the town of Oso, about 55 miles north of Seattle. It was reported to be about 15 feet deep in some areas.

Authorities believe the slide was caused by ground made unstable by recent heavy rainfall.

Washington Gov. Jay Inslee described the scene as "a square mile of total devastation" after flying over the disaster area midday Sunday. He assured families that everything was being done to find their missing loved ones.

"There is a full scale, 100 percent aggressive rescue going on right now," said Inslee, who proclaimed a state of emergency.

The slide blocked the North Fork of the Stillaguamish River. With the water pooling behind the debris, authorities worried about downstream flooding and issued an evacuation notice Saturday. The water had begun to seep through the blockage Sunday afternoon, alleviating some concerns.

Oil spill cleanup impedes major Texas ship channel

TEXAS CITY, Texas (AP)—A barge that once carried some 900,000 gallons of heavy tar-like oil was cleared Sunday of its remaining contents, a day after the vessel collided with a ship in the busy Houston Ship Channel and leaked as much as about a fifth of its cargo into the waterway.

Coast Guard officials said that up to 168,000 gallons were dumped after one of the barge's tanks ruptured and that oil had been detected 12 miles offshore in the Gulf of Mexico as of Sunday afternoon.

"This is a significant spill," Capt. Brian Penoyer, commander of the Coast Guard at Houston-Galveston, said.

But he said the emptying of the barge Sunday, a process known as lightering as contents are transferred to other vessels, was an important step as it had eliminated the risk of additional oil spilling.

The channel, one of the world's busiest waterways for moving petrochemicals, was shut for a second day Sunday. As many as 60 vessels were backed up both trying to get out and get in.

Over 380 people - "and

we've ordered more," Penoyer said - plus a fleet of oil-retrieving skimmers and other vessels deploying some 60,000 feet of containment booms around environmentally sensitive areas worked to mitigate the damage.

The area is home to popular bird habitats, especially during the approaching migratory shorebird season.

Officials said they had scattered reports of wildlife damage but no specifics. Some black tar-like globs, along with a dark line of a sticky, oily substance, could be detected along the shoreline of the Texas City dike, a 5-mile-long jetty that juts into Galveston Bay across from a tip of Galveston Island.

"That is the consistency of what the cargo looks like," Jim Guidry, executive vice president of Houston-based Kirby Inland Marine Corp., the nation's largest inland barge company and owner of the barge, said when the substance was described to him at a news conference. "We're very concerned. We're focused on cleaning up," he said.

He said the company was tak-

ing responsibility for the costs.

The barge has been moved to a shipyard and is no longer at the scene of the spill, according to a statement Sunday evening from Texas Gov. Rick Perry's office.

Penoyer said at least one cruise ship, initially socked in by fog Saturday, was being allowed to end its trip and return to Galveston. He said others would be handled on a case-by-case basis. Its path into Galveston would take it through a safety zone defining the oil cleanup area.

There was no timetable for a total reopening of the channel, which typically handles as many as 80 vessels daily.

The Coast Guard and National Transportation Safety Board were investigating what happened.

"It will take quite a bit of time, given the complexity of the vessels and a very busy waterway," Penoyer said.

The contents of the torn tank, equal to about 4,000 barrels, were lost or displaced into other vacant areas of the barge. Penoyer said currents, tides and wind were scattering the spill.



The orange X on a house, destroyed in the mud, indicates it has been searched for people on Highway 530, Sunday, March 23, 2014 the day after a giant landslide occurred near Oso, Wash.

Teenage girl struck by train in critical condition

MARYSVILLE, Calif. (AP)—A Northern California teenager remained in critical condition on Sunday after she was struck by a freight train while walking to a school dance with her boyfriend, who was killed in the accident.

Gary Zavoral, a spokesman for Sutter Roseville Medical Center, confirmed 16-year-old Mickayla Friend's condition.

The accident Friday evening occurred near Marysville's only high school and a little league park where a game was being played.

Investigators told KCRA-TV that the teens were walking south on the tracks—the

same direction as the Union Pacific train. They were scheduled to attend a Sadie Hawkins Day dance.

The boy died at the scene, and Mickayla was airlifted to the hospital.

Marysville Police Chief David Baker says investigators are looking into whether the pair got distracted by headphones or something else when the accident occurred.

The conductor sounded the horn and tried to stop, but it typically takes more than a mile to come to a halt, Union Pacific said in statement that called the two teens "trespassers."

"Our hearts go out to the

friends and family of the two individuals involved in the accident," the statement said. "It is a stark reminder that railroad tracks are never a safe place to be."

Sandy Friend, Mickayla's mother, told KTXL-TV in Sacramento that she believes her daughter's boyfriend saved her life.

"She had the love of a young man. He just sacrificed himself to save my daughter," she said.

While the small Northern California town mourned, baseball games at the little league park resumed Sunday.

The game started with a moment of silence for the victims.

ACROSS THE NATION

1 dead after shuttle bus crash on I-95; man held

WASHINGTON (AP)—A shuttle bus transporting a group back from a birthday party collided with a car and overturned before dawn Sunday along a highway south of the nation's capital, leaving one person dead and sending 16 others to the hospital, Virginia State Police said. The bus was headed south on Interstate 95 when witnesses reported seeing a speeding white sedan swerve into the bus's lane. Virginia State Police initially said the bus swerved to avoid the car and then overturned, but later said the two vehicles collided, causing the bus driver to lose control, drive off the road and overturn. The driver of the white sedan did not stop but was arrested later Sunday and charged with one felony count of hit-and-run, the Virginia State Police said. State Police identified

him as 31-year-old Raphael Manuel Barrientos of Dumfries, Va. A woman who answered at a telephone listing for his home declined to comment.

Colorado plane crash victims not yet recovered

MONROE, Colo. (AP)—Authorities on Sunday had yet to recover the bodies of five people feared dead after their small plane crashed into a southwestern Colorado reservoir a day earlier. Sonar images showed the fuselage appeared to be intact and the wings still attached, Ouray County spokeswoman Marti Whitmore said. Authorities worked to get additional crews and equipment quickly in place to aid the recovery work that continued through Sunday and will resume Monday, Whitmore said. The identities of those aboard weren't immediately released.

Asia

Chinese plane spots object in Indian Ocean



Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force's P-3C Orion arrives to help with search operations for the missing Malaysia Airlines Flight MH370 at Royal Australian Air Force Pearce Base in Perth, Australia, Sunday, March 23, 2014.

PERTH, Australia (AP)—A Chinese plane on Monday spotted a white, square-shaped object in an area identified by satellite imagery as containing possible debris from the missing Malaysian airliner, while the United States separately prepared to send a specialized device that can locate black boxes.

The crew aboard an IL-76 plane sighted the object in the southern Indian Ocean and reported the coordinates to the Australian command center,

which is coordinating the multinational search, as well as the Chinese icebreaker Snow Dragon, which is en route to the area, China's Xinhua News Agency reported.

From 10,000 meters (33,000 feet), the spotters saw two larger floating objects and some smaller, white debris scattered over several square kilometers (miles), the report said. It gave no other details.

Satellite images released by Australia and China had ear-

lier identified possible debris in the area that may be linked to the disappearance of Malaysia Airlines Flight 370 on March 8 with 239 people aboard.

The U.S. Pacific command said it was sending a black box locator in case a debris field is located. The Towed Pinger Locator, which is pulled behind a vessel at slow speeds, has highly sensitive listening capability so that if the wreck site is located, it can hear the black box pinger down to a depth of about 20,000 feet (6,100

meters), Cmdr. Chris Budde, a U.S. Seventh Fleet operations officer, said in a statement.

"This movement is simply a prudent effort to preposition equipment and trained personnel closer to the search area so that if debris is found we will be able to respond as quickly as possible since the battery life of the black box's pinger is limited," Budde said.

There was no sign the move was linked any break in the mystery of the plane, but rather

Latest information on search for Malaysian plane

Ten planes were sent out Monday to search waters of the southern Indian Ocean any trace of Malaysia Airlines Flight 370. A summary of the latest information in the investigation:

CHINESE PLANE SPOTS OBJECT

A Chinese plane crew spotted a white, square-shaped object in an area identified by satellite imagery as containing possible debris from the missing Malaysian airliner, Xinhua News agency said. A Chinese ship was headed toward the area to investigate.

BLACK BOX LOCATOR

The U.S. Pacific command said it was sending a Towed Pinger Locator to the region. The equipment, which is pulled behind a vessel at slow speeds, has highly sensitive listening capability that can detect pings from a plane's so-called black box down to a depth of 20,000 feet (6,100 meters).

FRENCH SATELLITE DATA

France said satellite radar data identified some debris that could be from the lost plane about 900 kilometers (550 miles) north of the spot where objects in the images released by the Chinese were located.

THE CONDITIONS

Rain was expected in the search area, about 2,500 kilometers (1,550 miles) southwest of Perth, Australia, hampering visibility. A cyclone bearing down on the northwest coast of Australia could also stir up bad weather. Planes must fly about four hours just to get there, severely limiting their search time before returning home.

SEARCH EQUIPMENT

Australia, China, the U.S., Japan and New Zealand have all contributed planes or ships to the search effort. A total of 14 planes and five ships are involved. (AP)

as a preparation.

The Chinese plane was one of two Ilyushins that joined the search Monday from Perth, increasing the number of aircraft to 10 from eight a day earlier.

The Australian Maritime Safety Authority said the objects spotted Monday were "within today's search area and attempts will be made to relocate them."

Bad weather was threatening the search efforts in the area,

about 2,500 kilometers (1,550 miles) southwest of Perth. Australia's Bureau of Meteorology reported increased winds, low cloud and a reduction in visibility on Monday. On Tuesday, a cold front was expected to move through the search area from the west, bringing showers, more low cloud and less visibility. Tropical Cyclone Gillian, which is further to the north, will not impact the area.

PH refuses to free 2 top communist rebels

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Philippine officials said Sunday that they would not release two leaders of a violent rebel group fighting to overthrow the government, whose arrests were a serious blow to one of Asia's longest-running communist insurgencies.

Communist rebels have demanded the release of Benito Tiamzon, chairman of the Communist Party of the Philippines, and his wife, Wilma Austria, who were captured in central Cebu province with five other suspected Maoist insurgents on Saturday.

The arrests were a big blow to the 45-year Marxist insurgency, one of Asia's longest and most violent. The military has described Tiamzon, 63, as the "center of gravity" of the Mao-

ist insurgency who has overseen major rebel actions for years. The United States has blacklisted the group, which has about 4,000 armed fighters, as a terrorist organization.

The Tiamzons have been charged for their alleged involvement in the 1985 massacre of 15 people whose remains were discovered in a mass grave in 2006 in the central province of Leyte, according to the military.

Military chief of staff Gen. Emmanuel Bautista said the two were arrested "for their crimes against humanity, including multiple murders."

The two and their companions were traveling in two vans, apparently to move to another hideout, when about 40 military intelligence agents, soldiers and

policemen blocked their path in a downtown area of Cebu. Authorities seized four pistols, ammunition, two grenades, four laptop computers, 16 cellphones and rebel documents from the captured guerrillas, the military said.

The rebels condemned the arrests, saying the two were consultants in stalled peace talks who were granted temporary immunity from arrests under a 1995 accord with the government.

Authorities said they arrested 58 protesters while dozens were injured. Police action came five days after mainly student demonstrators occupied the nearby legislature following the decision of a ruling party politician to renege on a promise to submit the pact to legislative review.

While political protests in Taiwan are common, violent confrontations between demonstrators and police are relatively rare, reflecting the high level of

civil discourse that has taken hold of Taiwanese society since the island completed an impressive transition from one-party dictatorship to robust democracy in the mid-1990s.

The occupation of the Cabinet offices marked a sharp escalation in tactics by a mostly student-led protest movement that now appears to be showing signs of a split between anti-government militants and a main group seeking dialogue with President Ma Ying-jeou on the China trade pact.

The occupation of the legislature has been mostly peaceful, attracting tens of thousands of supporters to the area surrounding the legislative building.

Early Sunday, Ma rejected protester demands to shelve the trade pact, which would open

Police move in on Taiwan protest over China pact

TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP)—Baton-wielding riot police cleared Taiwan's Cabinet offices of scores of angry protesters opposed to a trade pact with China on Monday, in a sharp escalation of roiling tensions against the island's rapidly developing ties with the communist mainland.

Authorities said they arrested 58 protesters while dozens were injured. Police action came five days after mainly student demonstrators occupied the nearby legislature following the decision of a ruling party politician to renege on a promise to submit the pact to legislative review.

While political protests in Taiwan are common, violent confrontations between demonstrators and police are relatively rare, reflecting the high level of

dozens of service sector industries in each side's territory to companies from the other. It was signed in June by representatives from Taipei and Beijing, but is still waiting ratification by the Taiwan legislature.

Ma said that rejecting the pact now would undermine Taiwan's credibility and harm its economy, which since he entered office nearly six years ago has become increasingly tied to Chinese markets.

Student leaders insist tying Taiwan too closely to China will harm Taiwan's hard-won democratic freedoms and pave the way for China's eventual takeover of the island. That has been the central goal of Beijing's Taiwan policy since the two sides split amid civil war in 1949.

World

Ukraine says top commander held after base stormed

KIEV, Ukraine (AP)—A Ukrainian air force commander is being held after his base in Crimea was stormed by pro-Russian forces, and the acting president called for his release Sunday.

Col. Yuliy Mamchur is the commander of the Belbek Air Force base near Sevastopol, which was taken over Saturday by forces who sent armored personnel carriers smashing through the base's walls and fired shots and stun grenades. One Ukrainian serviceman was reported wounded in the clash.

It was unclear if the forces, who didn't bear insignia, were Russian military or local pro-Russia militia.

Ukraine President Oleksandr Turchynov, in a statement, said Mamchur was "abducted" by the forces. He didn't specify where Mamchur is believed to be held.

However, prominent politician Vitali Klitschko said Sunday that Mamchur is being held by the Russian military in a jail in Sevastopol, the Crimean city that is the base of Russia's Black Sea Fleet.

Klitschko was one of the leaders of the three months of protests in Ukraine that culminated in late February with President Viktor Yanukovich fleeing the country and interim authorities taking power before a May 25 presidential election. The protests were triggered by Yanukovich's decision to reject a deal for closer ties with



AP
Pro-Russian soldiers in unmarked uniforms arrange a position on top of an APC near Ukrainian marines base in the city of Feodosia, Crimea, Sunday, March 23, 2014.

the European Union and turn to Moscow instead.

Yanukovich's ouster was denounced by Russia and much of Ukraine's ethnic Russian population as a coup. Soon thereafter, Russian forces took control of Crimea and the region held a referendum to break off from Ukraine and join Russia.

Russia formally annexed Crimea last week, a move that Western countries say is illegitimate. The U.S. and the EU have imposed sanctions on Russia in the dispute, but Moscow appears unmoved.

On Sunday, the Russian Defense Ministry said the Russian flag was now flying over 189

military facilities in Crimea. It didn't specify whether any Ukrainian military operations there remained under Ukrainian control.

At a Ukrainian marines base in Feodosia, troops were negotiating with Russian forces on handing over the base, Lt. Anatoly Mozgovoi told The Associated Press. The marines were

loading 50-caliber machine guns into armored personnel carriers to take them to the base armory, but Mozgovoi said they hope to hold on to heavy weapons such as rocket-propelled grenades and cannon.

"I think from my personal opinion, the Russian Federation has enough weapons," he said.

Turkish jet downs Syrian warplane near border

ISTANBUL (AP)—Turkish fighter jets shot down a Syrian warplane Sunday after it violated the country's airspace, Turkey's prime minister said, in a move likely to ramp up tensions between two countries already deeply at odds over Syria's civil war.

A spokesman for Syria's military confirmed the incident, denouncing it as a "blatant aggression." The unnamed spokesman quoted on Syrian state TV said the plane was hit while pursuing gunmen near the border, and

that the pilot safely ejected from the aircraft.

Syria's official SANA news agency quoted the pilot as saying that he was shot down while 7 kilometers (5 miles) inside Syrian airspace.

Turkey, a NATO member that once enjoyed good ties with Syria, has emerged as one of the strongest critics of Syrian President Bashar Assad and is now one of the main backers of the 3-year-old rebellion against him. Hostilities

have flared along the border on several occasions, although the exchanges of fire have generally been brief and very limited in scope.

Despite protestations from Syria, there was little indication either side wanted the confrontation to escalate.

In a statement, the Turkish military said a Syrian MiG-23 entered Turkey's airspace near the Hatay border zone after ignoring four warnings to turn back. One of two Turkish F-16s

conducting a patrol in the area then fired a missile that struck the Syrian jet, which crashed 1,200 meters (yards) inside Syrian territory near the town of Kassab, the military said.

Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan, speaking at a rally in northwestern Turkey a week ahead of local elections, congratulated the military, and said the strike should serve as a warning against further incursions.

"If you violate our border, our

slap will be hard," he said.

The Lebanon-based Al-Mayadeen TV, which has a network of reporters around Syria, reported that the pilot of the downed warplane landed in the village of Bahluliya in Latakia province. It gave no further details.

Syrian rebels launched an offensive in the Kassab area of Latakia near the Turkish border on Friday. The rugged hills near the frontier have been engulfed in heavy fighting since then.

Ebola detected in Guinea victims, 50 dead

CONAKRY, Guinea (AP)—Samples from victims of a viral hemorrhagic fever that has killed more than 50 people in Guinea have tested positive for the Ebola virus, government officials said Sunday, marking the first time an outbreak among humans has been detected in this West African nation.

Government spokesman Damantang Albert Camara said the virus was found in tests conducted at a laboratory in Lyon, France.

A Health Ministry statement on Saturday said 80 cases including 59 deaths had been re-

ported, most of them in three southern prefectures near Sierra Leone and Liberia. Three cases, including two deaths, were reported in Conakry, the capital, according to the statement.

A team including the health minister had been dispatched to the region, Camara said, and Doctors Without Borders had set up an isolation unit in Gueckedou to try to stop the disease from spreading.

"In Guinea, a country with a weak medical infrastructure, an outbreak like this can be devastating," Dr. Mohamed Ag

Ayoya, country representative for UNICEF, said in a statement Sunday noting that three children had died in the outbreak.

Previous Ebola outbreaks have been reported in Congo and Uganda, most recently in 2012. The only prior case of a human contracting the virus in West Africa came in 1994, when a scientist fell ill while responding to Ebola cases among chimpanzees in a national park in Ivory Coast, said Dr. Esther Sterk, tropical disease adviser for Doctors Without Borders. The scientist eventually recovered.

Sterk, who is coordinating the Doctors Without Borders response from Geneva, said the organization had confirmed 49 cases including 29 deaths. Samples from six victims had been linked to Ebola, she said, though it was "quite likely" the others also contracted the virus.

"We see that a lot of people that died, they were all linked, meaning they have been in contact with each other," she said. "That is very typical for Ebola outbreaks. We see that there is a transmission chain in families."

Officials have not been able

to determine how Ebola was introduced, though that can result from contact with an infected animal like a bat or a monkey.

Among humans the disease is transmitted through bodily fluids.

Officials have also been unable to determine the subtype of Ebola, which would give them a better idea of the fatality rate, Sterk said. The fatality rate for Ebola can range from 25 to 90 percent.

Sterk said there were concerns the disease could spread to neighboring West African countries Sierra Leone and Liberia.

Saturday's Health Ministry statement said one of the positive cases had traveled to Liberia.

In Donetsk, one of the major cities in eastern Ukraine, about 5,000 people demonstrated in favor of holding a referendum on secession and absorption into Russia.

Eastern Ukraine is the country's industrial heartland and was Yanukovich's support base. Donetsk authorities on Friday formed a working group to hold a referendum, but no date for it has been set.

Russia has deployed thousands of troops in its regions near the Ukrainian border and concerns are high that it could use unrest in the east as a pretext for crossing the border.

On Sunday, Russian deputy defense minister Anatoly Antonov was quoted by Russian news agencies as saying the number of Russian troops in the area of the Ukrainian border does not exceed international treaty limits.

WORLD BRIEFS

Thousands of Hamas supporters rally in Gaza

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip (AP)—Tens of thousands of Hamas supporters thronged the streets of downtown Gaza City on Sunday, a show of strength at a time when the Islamic militant group faces its deepest crisis since seizing power seven years ago. Hamas is dealing with a severe financial shortfall, caused by heavy pressure from both Israel and Egypt. But leaders stressed that the group remains opposed to Mideast peace efforts and is ready for battle against Israel at any time. "The resistance is stronger than you think, and our force has doubled and our arsenal has doubled," Hamas' prime minister, Ismail Haniyeh, told the crowd. "What is hidden from you is bigger than you think."

World leaders gather for Hague nuclear summit

THE HAGUE, Netherlands (AP)—Nuclear terrorism is officially the main topic for world leaders at a two-day summit in the Netherlands starting Monday. In practice, the Ukraine crisis will likely overshadow those talks. The Nuclear Security Summit in the Hague will form the backdrop for an emergency meeting of Group of Seven leaders on Russia's annexation of Crimea. It's a confrontation between Russia and the West reminiscent of the Cold War. Russian President Vladimir Putin is not attending, instead sending Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov, who is expected to hold talks with U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry.

Focus

WASHINGTON (AP)—Alan Thacker wants health coverage, but he can't get help in his home state of Georgia. Mary Moscarello Gutierrez no longer can afford insurance in New Jersey. Justin Thompson of Utah refuses to be forced into the president's health law.

Millions of people in the United States will remain uninsured despite this week's final, frenzied push to sign them up under the health law. Their reasons are all over the map.

Across the country, many of the uninsured just don't know much about the health overhaul and its March 31 deadline for enrolling in plans that can yield big discounts, researchers say.

An Associated Press—GfK poll found that only one-fourth of the uninsured had tried to sign up through the state or federal insurance marketplaces, also known as exchanges, by late January. If they don't enroll in time, many will face a fine and be locked out of the subsidized plans until next year.

President Barack Obama and a phalanx of advocacy groups, insurance companies and volunteers are scrambling to spread the word about HealthCare.gov as the deadline dangles.

But the complexities of the Affordable Care Act can stymie even the well-informed.

New York tap dancer Jessica Wilt just missed being one of them.

She lost her health coverage last summer when she was laid off as education director of a small dance company. It wasn't easy being uninsured — when Wilt slashed her fingertip slicing lemons one night, she avoided an emergency room bill by sealing the cut herself with a super glue.

Wilt, 37, was eager to enroll in a marketplace plan but found the premiums too costly for a freelancer doing arts-related jobs. That would have been the end of it, if the accountant doing her income taxes last week hadn't prodded Wilt to try again. She went online, realized she had erred in projecting her 2014 earnings and qualified for a much bigger subsidy.

"I'm feeling a little embarrassed that I interpreted things the wrong way the first time," said Wilt, who signed up Friday for a midlevel "silver" plan for \$150 per month, a price that reflects a \$224 tax credit. "It just goes to show how confusing all this is."

There's a story for everyone who will remain on the sidelines of Obama's big enrollment push.

These are some of them:

THEY CAN'T GET IN

Richard Kelleher, long-term unemployed and uninsured, spent five months sorting through the confusion in Phoenix. He tried to sign up for a marketplace plan and then the state's newly expanded Medicaid program, getting shut-



Jessica Wilt checks her work tablet as she sits in shared office and meeting space, Wednesday March 12, 2014 in New York.

"It's everything our Founding Fathers fought against."

Thompson thinks going uninsured is a reasonable risk for him. After all, he says, he's 28 years old, healthy and financially secure, making about \$250,000 selling home automation and security systems last year.

Living on the central Florida coast, Jim Culberson, 63, has weathered heart attacks and cancer and says he barely scrapes by selling military histories and collectibles.

He would like health insurance if he could afford it, Culberson says. Just not through Obama's law.

He has no plans to look into the subsidies in Obama's law or its promise of coverage for pre-existing conditions.

"To me it looks like a load of hogwash," said Culberson, whose younger brother, John, is a Texas congressman pushing for repeal of the health care law. He adds: "I don't believe a whole lot the government says."

Culberson says he'll pay the uninsured penalty until he can enroll in Medicare in two years.

MAYBE NEXT YEAR

Need a 12-foot-long, flower-decked model plane for a wedding reception? Jose Espaillet will get it done.

He likes the challenge of setting up concerts, fashion shows and other flashy events in Miami, but it's part-time, seasonal work that doesn't come with a health plan. Espaillet, 26, hasn't seen a doctor in five years.

He found HealthCare.gov easy to use, but the \$150 to \$250 monthly premiums seemed too high. A cheaper option covering only major emergencies wasn't appealing. He decided to wait until next year.

"This year I'm just trying to get rid of as much debt as possible, student loans and stuff," Espaillet said.

Svetlana Pryjmak of Dade City, Fla., has been uninsured for about eight years, which she acknowledges "is really strange — because I'm a licensed insurance agent."

Companies that offer multiple insurance options hire Pryjmak to help workers understand their choices. She weighed her own options and decided to save the \$70 or so a month she would pay for a heavily subsidized policy. The early troubles with the enrollment websites weren't encouraging, she said.

But Pryjmak, 47, expects to sign up someday.

"Next year I'll probably get in on one of the exchanges," she said, "if the problems are ironed out."

Millions on the sidelines for big health care push

By CONNIE CASS
ASSOCIATED PRESS

down online, at state offices and by phone. At the same time, he was piling up employment rejections.

Kelleher, 64, felt invisible.

On Friday he got a letter accepting him into Medicaid — and an entry-level job offer the same day.

That puts his insurance situation in limbo for now. He thinks his earnings will end his Medicaid eligibility. But Kelleher says he's grateful for "an opportunity to at least be somewhere every day."

In Thomaston, Ga., it took Alan Thacker two weeks to get his answer online. It wasn't the one he wanted.

"I don't know how many expletives I hurled at the computer — 'Why are they doing it this way? Morons!' and other choice words," he recalled.

Thacker, 43, works for \$7.55 an hour at Burger King, not enough to qualify for a discount plan for himself and his wife through the federal marketplace.

People who don't earn enough for the marketplaces plans were supposed to be eligible for expanded Medicaid.

But because Georgia declined to enlarge its Medicaid program, the Thackers can't get help there, either.

Thacker said he likes the law, only wishing it could reach everyone in need.

"It's a great law and it's doing good stuff for people," Thacker said. "It's not doing anything for me."

IT'S TOO EXPENSIVE

In theory, Rebecca Carlson has access to health insurance through her job. The marketplaces are mostly for people who don't.

A single mother in Asheville, N.C., she earns \$11.50 an hour, around \$23,000 a year, doing office work at a nonprofit agency that helps people suffering from mental illness or substance abuse. She makes too much to qualify for the aid programs that support many of her agency's clients.

Covering Carlson and her 14-year-old son under her workplace plan would cost close to \$5,000 per year. That's out of reach on her squeeze-every-nickel budget.

Depending on details of her workplace's offering, it's possible Carlson, 43, might qualify for an exception that would open the door to a marketplace subsidy. But she had so much trouble getting through online and by phone that she gave up trying; it seemed unlikely to help.

"They could offer me health care for \$20 a month and I wouldn't be able to do it," Carlson said. "I have other responsibilities. I can't tell the power company that I can't pay the bill."

In New Jersey, Mary Moscarello Gutierrez, 44, could barely afford her catastrophic insurance plan before the Affordable Care Act.

Now she has no coverage.

She and her husband, Jorge, used to be insured through their small business: PatriaPet, a website that sells dog and cat collars decorated with world flags. They were falling behind on their \$400 monthly payments and their insurance agent advised them not to bother catching up because their type of mom—and—pop business

policy wouldn't be allowed under the new federal rules.

With her salary from various freelance writing jobs, the couple earns too much to qualify for a marketplace subsidy. She's priced bare bones policies at \$900 to \$1,200 per month, more than they can pay. Luckily, they can keep their 12-year-old daughter in an affordable state-run plan.

For now, the Gutierrezes are uninsured and facing a year-end penalty of about \$800, or 1 percent of their earnings.

"If I need some kind of major surgery, if I get hit by a cross-town bus, my family is sunk," she said. "It's scary."

THEY DON'T WANT IT

"I love paying taxes," declares Justin Thompson of Provo, Utah. "I think it's the most patriotic thing I can do."

And he's pleased to help others through substantial gifts to his church and charities.

But buy insurance to prop up the law? No way.

"It is an injustice that our president can tell us to do something like this," Thompson said.

Overdrive

Always give new car's stereo a try before you buy

By LARRY PRINTZ

THE VIRGINIAN-PILOT

When it comes to test driving a new car or truck, there's one component that few drivers consider: the audio system. If it's considered at all, it's to pull it out and replace it with an after-market unit. But the modern factory-installed sound systems offered on cars and trucks are integrated into the navigation unit and DVD player (if so equipped), and performance is tailored for a specific vehicle's interior. Most have redundant controls on the steering wheel so that you can adjust the volume or change a radio station without taking your hands off the wheel. That's why many buyers make do with whatever radio is installed.

The quality of a sound system is not a make-or-break item for car shoppers. But for those who find it hard to spend a moment without music, the quality of an audio system can be one of the major factors in a purchasing decision.

And while you may not be a connoisseur of sound, it helps to know if the audio system in that new car or truck is worthy. With that in mind, here are a few quick pointers.

First, remember that modern music is made up of compressed digital files. The more they're compressed, the lower the sound quality. Exhibit A: SiriusXM satellite radio once boasted impressive sound quality, but as the company has compressed the signal



For those who find it hard to spend a moment without music, the quality of a car's audio system can be one of the major factors in a purchasing decision.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

in the past few years, its sound has deteriorated markedly. A bit better than satellite radio is iTunes, although it's still not on par with a compact disc. Another good choice is HD Radio, which can be found in an increasing number of vehicles. HD Radio is free, like ordinary broadcast radio, except that its broadcast signal is digital and a special receiver is needed. HD Radio sound

quality is close to that of a CD and is offered by many area radio stations. (A complete list can be found online at <http://www.hdradio.com>)

Regardless of which medium you prefer, when test-driving a car, bring along a CD with different genres of music so that you can get a clear appreciation of an audio system's quality.

Once you decide to put an audio

system to the test, make sure to set the bass, treble, balance and fade to zero or normal to ensure accurate sound. Next, take your sampler and play each track for 20 or 30 seconds to get a quick feel for the system's quality.

If it's a good system, vocals and instruments will have a deep, rich nuance with a defined separation. It shouldn't sound muddy, hollow or dull. There should be spaciousness to its sound. If a track sounds flat, like an old AM transistor radio, the system is of lower quality.

Next, listen to the tracks at various volumes. At high volume, the system

should be crisp, clear and powerful, but not boomy. The bass should be heard, but not felt. The music should envelop you. During quiet passages, there should be tranquility without static, hissing, buzzing or whirring sounds. There should be uniformity to the bass, mid-range and treble. Each should be balanced and maintain their quality no matter what the volume.

The instruments should be distinct and have a spatial quality, as if you're actually listening to the music live and the musicians are riding shotgun. Instruments should seem as if they're spread around the cabin, with the vocalist naturally centered.

Finally, if you're not sure how good the stereo truly is, try this. Boost the bass all the way and decrease the treble all of the way. This will reveal the quality of the low end. Next, do the inverse to hear if the high end is any good.

By sampling different systems using this method you should be able to detect a difference.

Keep in mind that a good audio system makes the many hours spent in a car or truck more enjoyable. Given that many audio systems are custom-engineered to that vehicle's interior, it's worth taking the time during a new car test drive to consider the various audio choices offered.

Larry Printz is automotive editor at The Virginian-Pilot in Norfolk, Va. He can be reached at larry.printz@pilotonline.com.

MOTORING Q&A

Driver wonders if antilock brakes are all that effective

By PAUL BRAND
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

QUESTION: I have two cars with ABS—a 1999 Buick Regal and 2013 Toyota Corolla. I am wondering if ABS is really the best way for stopping on an icy road. This past week, I had several occasions where I tried to stop as I approached a stop sign, but when applying and maintaining brake pressure the ABS engaged but did little to stop the car as I kept sliding. Then I did the old-fashioned pumping of the brakes with much better results. The ABS seemed to not work well on icy roads compared to the pumping technique. Is this only my experience or am I using ABS incorrectly?

ANSWER: Considering that antilock braking systems are capable of recognizing wheel lockup and modulating/releasing hydraulic pressure to restore rotation of the wheel many times per second—much, much faster than the human foot can accomplish—ABS should be more effective than pumping the brakes in slippery conditions.

But there may be mitigating factors. First, if the anxiety of not stopping as quickly as the situation warrants causes the driver to continue to press harder and harder on the brake pedal, the ABS tends to cycle more slowly because of the much larger releases of hydraulic pressure required to restore

wheel rotation. These much deeper modulations will increase stopping distance measurably.

Recognize what provides the "best" stopping traction on ice—it's that moment just before and as the wheel/tire begins to lock up. At that instant, the tread blocks on the tire surface are at the edge of their maximum traction, just before sliding. Since the ABS system can recognize and release hydraulic pressure at that precise moment much faster than the human foot, ABS should stop better on ice.

Is it possible the pumping action can be more effective? Not in my experience, but perhaps in a scenario where the locked wheel/tire is actually melting the ice under the tread. This is entirely speculative on my part—just trying to envision a scenario where pumping the brakes might be more effective.

But here's the bottom line: Neither ABS nor pumping the brakes can overcome the laws of physics. Experiencing either action is confirmation of going too fast and/or braking too late for existing conditions. On glare ice, I still want an ABS system to minimize the consequences of my mistake.

Q: I have a 2014 Hyundai Sonata. Since I purchased it, the catalytic converter makes a ticking noise when it gets hot. I used to have a 2012 Sonata that never had this issue—any thoughts?

A: The ticking sound from the exhaust as it cools down is completely

normal. The sound is generated by the extraordinarily hot metal in the forward sections of the exhaust, including the converter and its heat shield, contracting as it cools. No worries. And I think you'll find that this ticking during cool-down will fade as you accumulate more miles on the vehicle.

Q: How does really cold weather affect hybrid vehicles? I am thinking of buying one but not if they don't work well in really cold weather. Also, what if I go south in the winter—can my hybrid just sit in the garage for several weeks without any problem?

A: With a gas/electric vehicle, expect to see more "gas" operation in cold weather. More energy is needed to operate the vehicle and warm its interior. So the car will likely rely more heavily on its internal combustion engine and use more fuel. But even with the lower efficiency and reduced "hybrid benefits," the vehicle will still "work" reliably. And parking a hybrid for weeks, even months, won't be any more of an issue than with a conventional vehicle.

Paul Brand, author of How to Repair Your Car, is an automotive trouble-shooter, driving instructor and former race-car driver. Readers may write to him at: Star Tribune, 425 Portland Ave. S., Minneapolis, Minn., 55488 or via email at paulbrand@startribune.com. Please explain the problem in detail and include a daytime phone number. Because of the volume of mail, we cannot provide personal replies.

A primer on automotive emissions

By BRAD BERGHOLDT
MCCLATCHY-TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

The four main automobile/light truck emissions are; hydrocarbons (HC), carbon monoxide (CO), oxides of nitrogen (NOx), and carbon dioxide (CO2).

Hydrocarbon emissions are basically unburnt fuel. These can be gasoline vapors escaping the fuel tank, and the results of incomplete combustion. Vehicles built since 1970 attempt to collect, store, and burn such vapors. Vehicles built since 1996 take things quite a bit further with tighter containment, leakage monitoring and on-board refueling vapor recovery. Exhaust hydrocarbons occur when the engine is too cold to insure complete combustion; the air/fuel mixture is incorrect; a compression or mechanical fault occurs; or the ignition system fails to deliver strong spark at exactly the right time. The catalytic converter cleans up HC, CO and NOx, but can't be expected to work miracles when an upstream fault is severe.

Catalytic converters also need to be hot to function properly. The most important steps you can take to reduce emissions are performing periodic, recommended maintenance; consolidating trips, which cuts down on cold starts; maintaining recommended tire pressure, which ensures safer operation and saves fuel; properly handling and storing gasoline; and promptly resolving the cause of a "check engine" light.

dangerous gas, as it is odorless and colorless. You should never operate an internal-combustion engine in an area without sufficient ventilation.

Oxides of nitrogen are produced when the combustion process reaches the upper end of desired temperature. Combustion can be cooled slightly can be done by reinserting inert exhaust gasses and carefully managing ignition timing and valve operation. Post-combustion treatment occurs within the first bed of the catalytic converter. In sunlight, HC and NOx combine to create ground-level ozone, the main component of air pollution. It should be noted that ozone in the upper atmosphere is a good thing, blocking harmful rays of the sun.

An engine that runs perfectly produces mainly CO2, water, unchanged nitrogen and traces of other things. We actually look for high CO2 production as a sign of a healthy engine. CO2 is a greenhouse gas, so we need to find other ways to propel our vehicles if we are to help reduce global warming.

The most important steps you can take to reduce emissions are performing periodic, recommended maintenance; consolidating trips, which cuts down on cold starts; maintaining recommended tire pressure, which ensures safer operation and saves fuel; properly handling and storing gasoline; and promptly resolving the cause of a "check engine" light.

Life & Style

Anita Hill in spotlight again as new film opens

By JOCELYN NOVECK
AP NATIONAL WRITER

NEW YORK (AP)—It's been more than 22 years since Anita Hill sat before the Senate Judiciary Committee in that famous bright blue suit—one she could never bring herself to wear again—to make the sexual harassment allegations against Clarence Thomas that transfixed a nation.

And much has changed since then. But not everything.

"I hope you rot in hell," went an email that Hill, now 57 and a professor at Brandeis University, received just a few weeks ago from a member of the public.

After all this time?

"Yes," Hill says, with a resigned air. "As they go, this one was fairly mild. But it happens. And it'll happen again."

Especially now. The soft-spoken Hill, who still speaks in the same calm, precise tone many remember from 1991, has for two decades been living a quiet academic life, occasionally venturing out to speak about sexual harassment but often declining interviews.

But she's about to enter the maelstrom again with the release Friday of a new documentary, "Anita," by the Oscar-winning filmmaker Freida Mock. After years of declining requests to collaborate on a film about her experiences, she said yes.

Why now?

Hill says she was inspired by the reactions she was getting from people as the 20th anniversary of those Supreme Court confirmation hearings approached—particularly in 2010, when news broke that she'd received a voice mail from Thom-

as' wife, Virginia, asking Hill to "consider an apology." (That voice mail opens the film.)

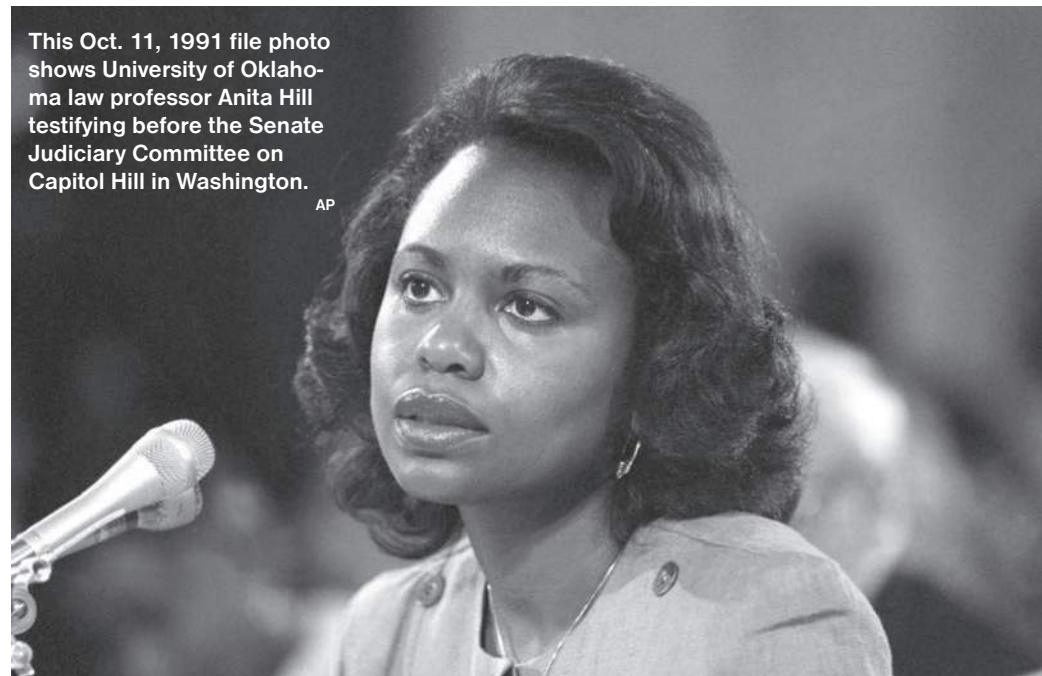
"People responded with outrage to that," Hill says. "But even more, I realized that here we are 20 years later and the issues are still resonating—in the workplace, in universities, in the military. So if 1991 could help us start a conversation, how then can we move this to another level? Because clearly we haven't eliminated the problem."

Experts agree the problem surely hasn't been eliminated. But many cite Hill's testimony as a landmark event, in both social and legal terms.

"Back then, this was an invisible issue, until Anita testified," says Marcia D. Greenberger, founder and co-president of the National Women's Law Center. Not only did Hill's testimony raise public consciousness about sexual harassment in the workplace, she says, and spur other women to make claims, but only months later, the Civil Rights Act of 1991, which addressed issues of employment discrimination, was passed with strong support.

"That happened in direct response to the growing realization of what the American public had seen in the hearings," Greenberger contends.

This Oct. 11, 1991 file photo shows University of Oklahoma law professor Anita Hill testifying before the Senate Judiciary Committee on Capitol Hill in Washington. AP



It's clear that Hill became, and remains, a heroine to many women. It's also clear that while she doesn't reject it, she remains somewhat uncomfortable with the status. In an interview at a Manhattan hotel, she seems almost more excited to discuss her work preparing a strategic plan for Brandeis than her public persona.

"In some ways I'm not very well suited, I think, for that position of heroine," she says. "People do want that person who is sort of out there and vocal and adamant about who they are and what they want. But I wouldn't be credible if I didn't come to this with my own personality."

Hill says that in her day-to-day life, "1991 just doesn't figure in." Case in point: At Brandeis, many of her students don't even know about her past. Hill points out that her grad students were only children in 1991, and the undergrads

weren't even born.

"It doesn't bother me," she says. "It's important to help them focus on what their learning objectives are, and not on me as a person."

Reluctant heroine or not, Hill often evokes a passionate response, says filmmaker Mock, who has accompanied Hill at film-related events.

"I had no idea she was a rock star," says Mock. "But it's a routine: People stand up when she walks in. They shout: 'I love you!' and 'I believe you, Anita!'"

"She was a reluctant witness, and she remains a reluctant public figure," Mock adds. "But she is proud to be a part of this journey that she never intended to be on."

In fact, Hill says, before all this, she'd planned to build a career in international commercial law, perhaps in Europe. "It would have been a very different life!" she laughs.

A life, likely, without hate mail. Hill says the worst part wasn't the actual hours spent testifying about painfully explicit matters, or when Thomas was ultimately confirmed to the Supreme Court, but what happened when she returned to her teaching job at the University of Oklahoma.

"I was getting threats," she said. "People were trying to get me fired. Friends of mine were fired." At the same time, she was getting bundles of letters of support from across the country. But the threat of losing her job felt more immediate.

Hill left the university in 1996, and landed at Brandeis soon after. In 2007, she was back in the news when Thomas wrote a book, "My Grandfather's Son," in which he described her as rude, a mediocre worker, a liar, and his "most traitorous adversary." She wrote a New York Times op-ed piece

saying she would not allow Thomas to "reinvent" her.

Hill has had no contact with Thomas, who had no comment for this article; she also never answered his wife's phone call. And she's had no contact over the years with the former senator who ran the hearings, Vice President Joe Biden, of whom she has been critical (though she says she's a supporter of his boss.)

The sight of that all-white, all-male panel, in clear contrast to Hill, is one of the more striking visuals in "Anita."

"Can you believe it was JUST 22 years ago?" she says. "It's like 'Mad Men'!"

"It was such a harsh contrast between who they were, and me and how I looked, in that blue suit," she says. "It was a reflection of their power and privilege. And I think the public saw that and related to me—though at the time, I just felt isolated."

What if the hearings were to happen now? Much would be different, Hill believes, including the language used by the senators. "I do not believe we would have an (Sen.) Alan Simpson saying 'that sexual harassment crap,' for example," she says. "The conversation has changed. We as a society have accepted that these are important issues."

Speaking of the suit, we have to ask: What happened to it?

"You're not going to ask me if it still fits, are you?" she asks with mock alarm.

That suit, she explains, was way too loaded with meaning to ever wear again. The Smithsonian recently asked to display it, but she wasn't ready yet.

"One day, the time will be right," she says.

Teen sci-fi franchise 'Divergent' debuts with \$56M

NEW YORK (AP)—To go with "Twilight" and "The Hunger Games," Lionsgate now has a trio of young-adult franchises with the box-office leading "Divergent."

The teen science-fiction thriller starring Shailene Woodley debuted with \$56 million over the weekend, according to studio estimates Sunday. The opening, while less than some anticipated, launches Lionsgate's third franchise built on young-adult best-sellers.

With an audience 59 percent female and half under the age of 25, "Divergent" lured young moviegoers with dystopian drama and an upcoming star. "Divergent," though, fell well short of its forerunners: "Twilight" opened with \$69.6 million in 2008, and "The Hunger Games" began with \$152.5 million in 2012.

Richie Fay, president of do-



This photo released by Summit Entertainment shows, from left, Miles Teller, Shailene Woodley, Ben Lamb, Zoe Kravitz, and Jai Courtney, in a scene from the film, "Divergent."

mestic distribution for Lionsgate, called it "a great beginning for another franchise for the company." A sequel is already in the works.

"The key to the success of

these franchises is finding the difference and marketing it," said Fay. "It's not easy. And I think we're doing it better than anyone else right now, frankly."

In the rush to adapt popular

young-adult fiction, Lionsgate has succeeded where many others have floundered. "Divergent," made with a budget of \$85 million from Veronica Roth's best-sellers, follows less stellar results from youth-focused films like "The Mortal Instruments: City of Bones," "Vampire Academy" and "Beautiful Creatures."

Disney's Muppets sequel "Muppets Most Wanted," with Ricky Gervais and Tina Fey, fared poorly, earning just \$16.5 million over the weekend. "The Muppets," opened notably better with

\$29.2 million in 2011, benefiting from the high-profile reboot starring and co-written by Jason Segel.

The family film market was more competitive than

expected, as 20th Century Fox's animated "Mr. Peabody and Sherman" has held better than anticipated. In its third week of release, the film - tops at the box office last weekend - slid to third with \$11.7 million.

The surprise of the weekend was the strong performance of the independently released "God's Not Dead," made to appeal specifically to faith-based audiences. It came in fifth with \$8.6 million, despite playing on just 780 screens.

Expanding from 66 to 304

1. **"Divergent,"** \$56 million.
2. **"Muppets Most Wanted,"** \$16.5 million (\$1.5 million international).
3. **"Mr. Peabody and Sherman,"** \$11.7 million (\$11.4 million international).
4. **"300: Rise of an Empire,"** \$8.7 million (\$21 million international).
5. **"God's Not Dead,"** \$8.6 million.
6. **"Need for Speed,"** \$7.8 million (\$29.2 million international).
7. **"Grand Budapest Hotel,"** \$7 million (\$9.6 million international).
8. **"Non-Stop,"** \$6.3 million (\$14 million international).
9. **"The Lego Movie,"** \$4.1 million (\$4.5 million international).
10. **"The Single Mom's Club,"** \$3.1 million.

screens, Wes Anderson's European caper "The Grand Budapest Hotel" continued to pack theaters in limited release. It earned \$6.5 million in its third week of release, with further expansion planned.

And though the crowd-funding of the big-screen edition of cult TV show "Veronica Mars" drew much publicity for its successful Kickstarter campaign, the movie has proved only of interest to devoted fans. On 347 screens, it made just \$144,000 for Warner Bros., bringing its two-week total to \$2.9 million.

'Homeland' actor James Rebhorn dies at 65

NEW YORK (AP)—James Rebhorn, the prolific character actor whose credits included "Homeland," "Scent of a Woman" and "My Cousin Vinny," has died. He was 65.

Rebhorn's agent, Dianne Busch, said Sunday that the actor died Friday at his home in South Orange, N.J., after a long battle with skin cancer.

Busch said Rebhorn was diagnosed with melanoma in 1992 but managed to work until the last month.

Busch said Rebhorn was diagnosed with melanoma in 1992 but managed to work until the last month.

Rebhorn, a prominent char-



In five decades of television and film work, Rebhorn amassed more than 100 credits, ranging from a shipping magnate in "The Talented Mr. Ripley" to the prosecutor in the series finale of "Seinfeld," in which he famously sent the group to jail.

The lanky but piercing Rebhorn, raised a Lutheran in Indiana, often played astringent

authorities, like the headmaster in "Scent of a Woman" or the Secretary of Defense in "Independence Day."

On "Homeland," he played the father of Claire Danes' CIA officer Carrie Mathison.

He also had a recurring role on the USA Network series "White Collar" playing the FBI head of a white-collar crime unit.

Other credits of the Phila-

delphia-born Rebhorn, who received his masters in acting from Columbia University, include "The Game," "Real Steel," "Law & Order," "Carlito's Way" and "Meet the Parents."

Rebhorn also frequently worked in theater, starring on Broadway in revivals of "Our Town," "12 Angry Men" and the original 1985 production of "I'm Not Rappaport."

He is survived by his wife, Rebecca Linn, and two daughters.

'Good Wife' leaves viewers shocked, bereaved

NEW YORK (AP)—Viewers of "The Good Wife" were gobsmacked by the sudden, unexpected death of its dashing attorney, Will Gardner, on Sunday's episode of the CBS legal drama.

Gardner, a prominent char-

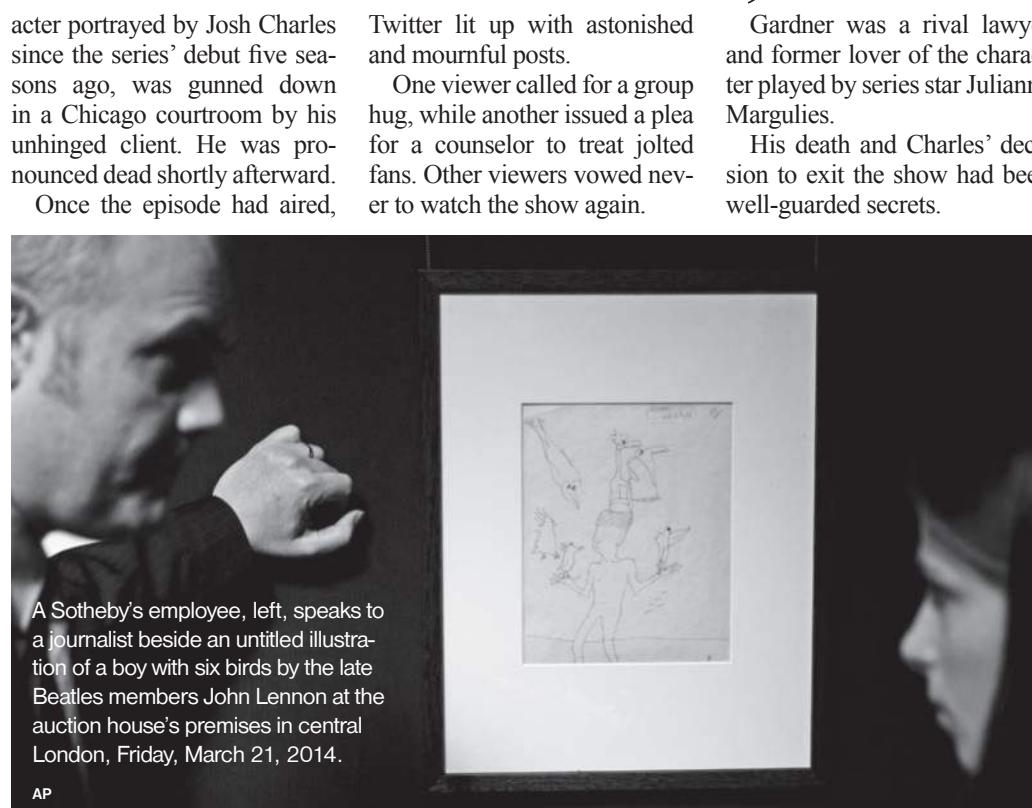
acter portrayed by Josh Charles since the series' debut five seasons ago, was gunned down in a Chicago courtroom by his unhinged client. He was pronounced dead shortly afterward.

Once the episode had aired, Twitter lit up with astonished and mournful posts.

One viewer called for a group hug, while another issued a plea for a counselor to treat jolted fans. Other viewers vowed never to watch the show again.

Gardner was a rival lawyer and former lover of the character played by series star Julianna Margulies.

His death and Charles' decision to exit the show had been well-guarded secrets.



A Sotheby's employee, left, speaks to a journalist beside an untitled illustration of a boy with six birds by the late Beatles members John Lennon at the auction house's premises in central London, Friday, March 21, 2014.

AP

John Lennon's artwork coming to NYC auction

NEW YORK (AP)—A collection of John Lennon's drawings and manuscripts is going up for auction.

The "You Might Well Arsk" sale of the late Beatles singer's material is scheduled to take place June 4 in New York, Sotheby's said.

The items are being put up for sale by Tom Maschler, who had worked with Lennon on "In His Own Write" and "A Spaniard in

the Works." Lennon wrote the books and created the drawings for them in the 1960s.

Among the items in the auction is a manuscript from 1965 called "The Singulare Experience of Miss Anne Duffield," which is expected to sell for \$40,000 to \$60,000. Another is an illustration of a guitar player with four eyes, which Lennon created in 1964 or 1965. It has a presale estimate

of \$15,000 to \$25,000.

The auction comes in a high-profile year for Beatles nostalgia. Fifty years ago, in February 1964, the Beatles made their first live U.S. concert appearance. A piece of the stage backdrop will be up for auction April 26 in New York City.

Lennon was fatally shot in 1980 by Mark David Chapman, who has been denied parole seven times.

Norwegian museum agrees to return looted Matisse

AMSTERDAM (AP)—A Norwegian museum says it has agreed to return a Matisse once looted by Hermann Goering to the family of Jewish art dealer Paul Rosenberg.

The 1937 painting, "Woman in Blue in Front of a Fireplace," has been the centerpiece of the Henie Onstad Art Center near Oslo since the museum was established in 1968 by shipping magnate Niels Onstad and his wife, Olympic figure-skating champion Sonja Henie.

The museum said in a statement Thursday that although it acquired the painting in good faith, it has "chosen to adhere to international conventions and return the painting to Rosenberg's heirs."

Norway is a signatory of the 1998 Washington Conference Principles on Nazi-Confiscated Art, which requires museums to



This undated file photo released by Henie Onstad Kunstcenter on Friday, April 5, 2013, shows the painting "Woman in Blue in Front of a Fireplace," circa 1937 by Henry Matisse.

review their collections for potentially looted works and when such a work is found, to try to locate rightful owners.

Now worth an estimated \$20 million, the painting was taken by Goering after Rosenberg fled to New York in 1940, and sold to a Parisian art dealer later convicted of dealing in Nazi-looted art. It was acquired from a different French gallery in 1950 by Onstad, who was apparently unaware of its provenance.

The museum investigated the painting's past only after being notified by the Rosenberg family of their claim to it in June 2012. The museum said that in the wake of the investigation—which it believes is the first of its kind undertaken in Norway—it has called upon the country's government to establish a committee to actually meet its obligations under the Washington Principles. Similar reviews have been launched in the U.S., Netherlands and Germany.

Let bride be the guide for wedding guest list

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
FROM UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: My daughter is being married soon, and I need some guidance about inviting my aunt and uncle to the wedding. They live about 30 miles from us. We moved to this area four years ago, and we've had them over for dinner once and invited them another time. They declined because they were going to be out of town.

Abby, they didn't reciprocate, and in fact, didn't even invite us to their daughter's wedding, which hurt us very much. I had always considered myself close to these relatives before we moved here, so their treatment of my family and me has been painful.

My mother is telling me to turn the other cheek despite everything and invite them to my daughter's wedding. My daughter doesn't want them to attend and neither does my husband, but Mom is emphatic about inviting them "because they're family."

I would appreciate your opinion on this, Abby, because I'm between a rock and a hard place, and my emotions are pulling me apart.

BETWIXT AND BETWEEN

DEAR BETWIXT: The bride's wishes should prevail. Her happiness on her wedding day is more important than the feelings of relatives who don't bother with you, her and your family. I have always said that one should never invite guests to a wedding hoping they won't show up, because they usually do.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I have an older friend who is 70. She doesn't have much money. She was having blood pressure problems, so I ordered a deluxe blood pressure machine for her that cost \$160. It wasn't a birthday gift; I was seriously concerned for her.

I learned this week that she "loaned" it to a friend. I wrote her a note and asked her nicely to please get it back because I didn't buy it for her friend (who has plenty of money), but because I was worried about her health. She is now not speaking to me, and MY blood pressure is going up by the minute because I'm so angry. Was I out of line or is she?

HYPER-FURIOUS IN ARIZONA

DEAR HYPER-FURIOUS: Relax. Breathe. What you did was a beautiful and generous gesture, but the blood pressure machine was a GIFT. Once a gift is given, it belongs to the recipient to do with as she (or he) wishes. For you to tell her to ask for it back may have been well-intentioned, but it was the wrong thing to do.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I'm an average 17-year-old guy. I love basketball, football and girls. The problem is I'm a player, and girls say I "use" them.

I'm not ready to settle down, and I end up hurting girls and breaking many hearts. How can I cure my player habits and heal some of the hearts I've broken?

TIRED OF PLAYING

DEAR TIRED OF PLAYING: Apologize to any young woman you have misled. Then ask yourself, "How would I feel if I had been treated this way?" If you practice the Golden Rule—"Do unto others as you would have them do unto you"—it will serve you well in most situations. If everyone did this, we could change the name of our planet from Earth to Paradise, and wouldn't that be heavenly?

■ ■ ■

CONFIDENTIAL TO "STUCK IN DULLSVILLE": Because you're convinced your job is a dead end, start sending out resumes. Jack London had this to say about stagnating lives: "I shall not waste my days in trying to prolong time. I shall use my time. ... The proper function of man is to live, not to exist."

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable—and most frequently requested—poems and essays, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby—Keepers Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes



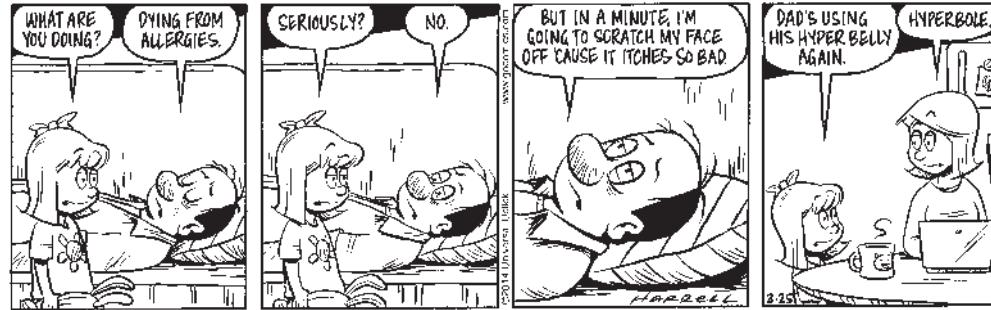
By Bill Waterson

Garfield®



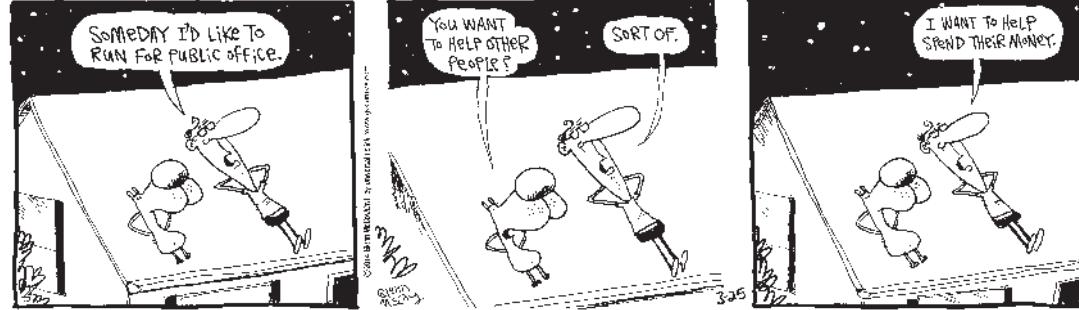
By Jim Davis

Adam@home



By Bryan Basset

The Duplex



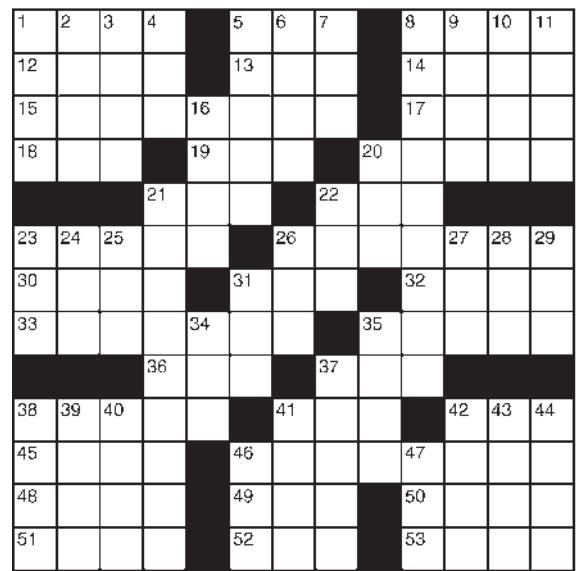
By Glenn McCoy

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS	36	Tree	DOWN	23	Macs'
1 Put together	36	sacred to Druids	1 Actress Sorvino	23	alternatives
5 Satchel	37	Cauldron	2 Mideast gulf	24	Snitch
8 Grate	38	Douglas	3 Retained	25	"Believer"
12 Concept		or	4 Listener	26	Web address end
13 Didn't pay yet	41	Giffords	5 Bust	27	Japanese sash
14 Reverberate	42	Ms. Farrow	6 Vacationing	28	Young fellow
15 Act of retaliation	45	Petrol	7 Hair product	29	CBS logo
17 Get ready, for short	46	Geometry	8 Stand for	30	Stir-fry pan
18 Hill dweller	47	Fabric fuzz	9 Farm fraction	31	Rotation duration
19 Tarzan's son	48	Mellow	10 Son of Noah	32	Take to the skies
20 Oreo filler	49	Red Muppet	11 Francis, e.g.	33	One who must be paid?
21 Edge	50	Tardy	16 Footnote abbr.	34	Chutzpah
22 West of Hollywood	51	Kids' card game	20 Soup container	35	Met melody
23 Used a crowbar	52	Oboe insert	21 Scoundrel	36	Crooked
26 Say "There, there"	53	call?	22 Cattle	37	Ginormous
30 Bivouac		Solution time: 21 mins.	38	42	Big wind
31 Court			39	43	High point
32 Online auction site			40	44	Not barefoot
33 Celebrity status			41	45	Uncooked
35 Slyly sarcastic			42	46	"— the ramparts"

Yesterday's answer 3-25



For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

STUMPED?

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Marcia Cross, 52; Sarah Jessica Parker, 49; Elton John, 67; Aretha Franklin, 72.

Happy Birthday: Strategy will be required if you plan to get ahead this year. Preparation and organization must override any lack of confidence you feel. Keep life simple and your plans reasonable. Protect your health, wealth and emotional well-being. Haste will make waste and lead to mistakes and poor choices. Use your brain, not your brawn. Your numbers are 4, 13, 18, 23, 32, 36, 44.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Do your own thing and extend others the same courtesy. Make choices that best suit your needs, but be mindful of what is going on around you. A situation that can influence your living arrangements should be handled with care. ☀

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Avoid stress, which could lead to unwanted consequences. Partnerships may leave you feeling vulnerable or used. Focus on your needs and reach out to those who share your interests and concerns. Follow your gut and put learning and experience first. ☀

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Participating in fundraising events or organizational functions will bring you in contact with someone who shows interest in your ideas and plans. Weigh the pros and cons of an opportunity that is presented. Adaptability and equality should help you make a final decision. ☀

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You'll be caught between two possibilities that lead in different directions. Follow your intuition and you will gain greater stabil-

ity and happiness once you pass the initial stage of change that makes you uncomfortable. Don't procrastinate. Size up and start moving. ☀

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Be a leader. Make changes that will secure your advancement. Focus on important partnerships and do your best to improve your love life by adding a little romance to the mix. The more versatile you are, the better you will do. ☀

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Honesty will keep you out of trouble. Share your feelings, but protect your heart, your assets and your reputation. A function you attend will promote new friendships. You can enjoy social activities without being subject to overspending. ☀

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You'll get the backing you need if you are upfront regarding your motives. A personal relationship will get a boost if you make a couple of changes that are sure to please. Home improvements will make your life easier. Focus on romance. ☀

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Question what everyone else is doing, but follow your dreams. A creative plan will help you out both at home and when dealing with friends, relatives and your peers. Protect your health and emotional wellness. ☀

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Don't forget to pay people back. The offers you get may be generous, but know that you will have to earn whatever's being proposed. A relationship with someone unusual will be questioned. Be ready to present your reasoning and your intentions. ☀

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD
IN ASTROLOGYCOURTESY 2007
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Ultimatums and demands will stand between you and what you want. Whether it's you or someone else calling the shots, it isn't likely that you will come to a workable agreement. Look for something unusual you can offer as incentive. ☀

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You can flirt with the past, but don't make promises. Getting together with an old friend will cost you emotionally. Don't bend to someone trying to take advantage of you or what you have. Choose the people you associate with wisely. ☀

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Ask questions and find out what's expected of you before you become too enthusiastic about an overrated idea. Invest in yourself and your ideas, not what someone else has to offer. Trust in your talent, skills and experience. ☀

Birthday Baby: You are energetic and imaginative. You are innovative and strive to excel.

Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on twitter/facebook/linkedin.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

1	2			9				
3	4							
5	6	7	8	9	10	11		
12			13			14		
15		16				17		
18		19	20					
	21		22					
23	24	25		26		27	28	29
30			31			32		
33		34		35				
	36		37					
38	39	40		41		42	43	44
45			46		47			
48			49		50			
51			52		53			

Difficulty Level ★★

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

4	7	6	9	2	1	3	5	8
9	2	5	7	3	8	4	1	6
3	8	1	4	6	5	9	7	2
8	6	7	1	9	3	5	2	4
1	9	4	5	7	2	8	6	3
2	5	3	6	8	4	1	9	7
6	3	2	8	5	9	7	4	1
5	1	8	2	4	7	6	3	9
7	4	9	3	1	6	2	8	5

Difficulty Level ★★★

WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEM. LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

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N	E	R	E	K	O	H	S	U	R	O	S	H
R	I	G	C	R	I	N	S	U	R	A	N	C
T	O	S	A	N	O	V	I	V	G	E	O	L
N	B	W	S	P	U	C	R	V	W	H	E	I
I	I	I	E	A	T	F	K	S	L	E	N	C
R	L	N	D	N	N	R	Y	H	M	A	O	F
P	L	N	L	N	A	H	E	C	U	M	C	Y
D	A	E	U	A	T	S	M	B	I	R	R	N
A	S	R	C	A	R							

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Jack, Cavs snap Knicks' 8-game win streak



NEW YORK (AP)—A chance to gain ground in the playoff race was there, until Jarrett Jack took it away.

Now the New York Knicks have 3,000 miles to think about how this game—and maybe any realistic postseason hopes they had—was lost.

Jack scored a season-high 31 points Sunday night in the Cleveland Cavaliers' 106-100 victory over the Knicks, who had their eight-game winning streak snapped.

The Knicks wasted a chance to pull within two games of a playoff spot before leaving for a five-game Western Conference trip that starts Tuesday against the Lakers.

"This was a huge opportunity lost, one we can't afford," Knicks guard J.R. Smith said. "But we can't get it back. We've just got to go on the road, win some games and try to come back home and win."

Hours after being handed a chance to get closer to the final spot in the Eastern Conference when Atlanta blew a fourth-quarter lead in Toronto, the Knicks responded with an inept final period of their own after they led by 17 points in the first half.

They couldn't stop Jack and couldn't get a basket from Carmelo Anthony, who missed all five shots in the final period and finished with 32 points. New York remained three back with 12 to play.

"It's tough. We should've won this game. We gave it away. They earned it, they beat us. We didn't play well coming down the stretch or in the second half and they did," Anthony said. "But it's behind us now, there's nothing we can do about that."

Jack scored 23 in the second half after coach Mike Brown challenged his team at halftime.

"It was just about making a stand and each individual person making a stand and then collectively as a team us all bringing that same mindset to the table," Jack said. "That's pretty much what it was about. I just thought guys responded."

Jack finished with 10 assists for the Cavaliers, who snapped a four-game losing streak.

Dion Waiters scored 22 points and Luol Deng had 13 in his return from a three-game absence with a sprained left ankle for the Cavs, who didn't miss All-Star Kyrie Irving because Jack torched the Knicks for 13 points in the fourth quarter on 6-of-7 shooting.

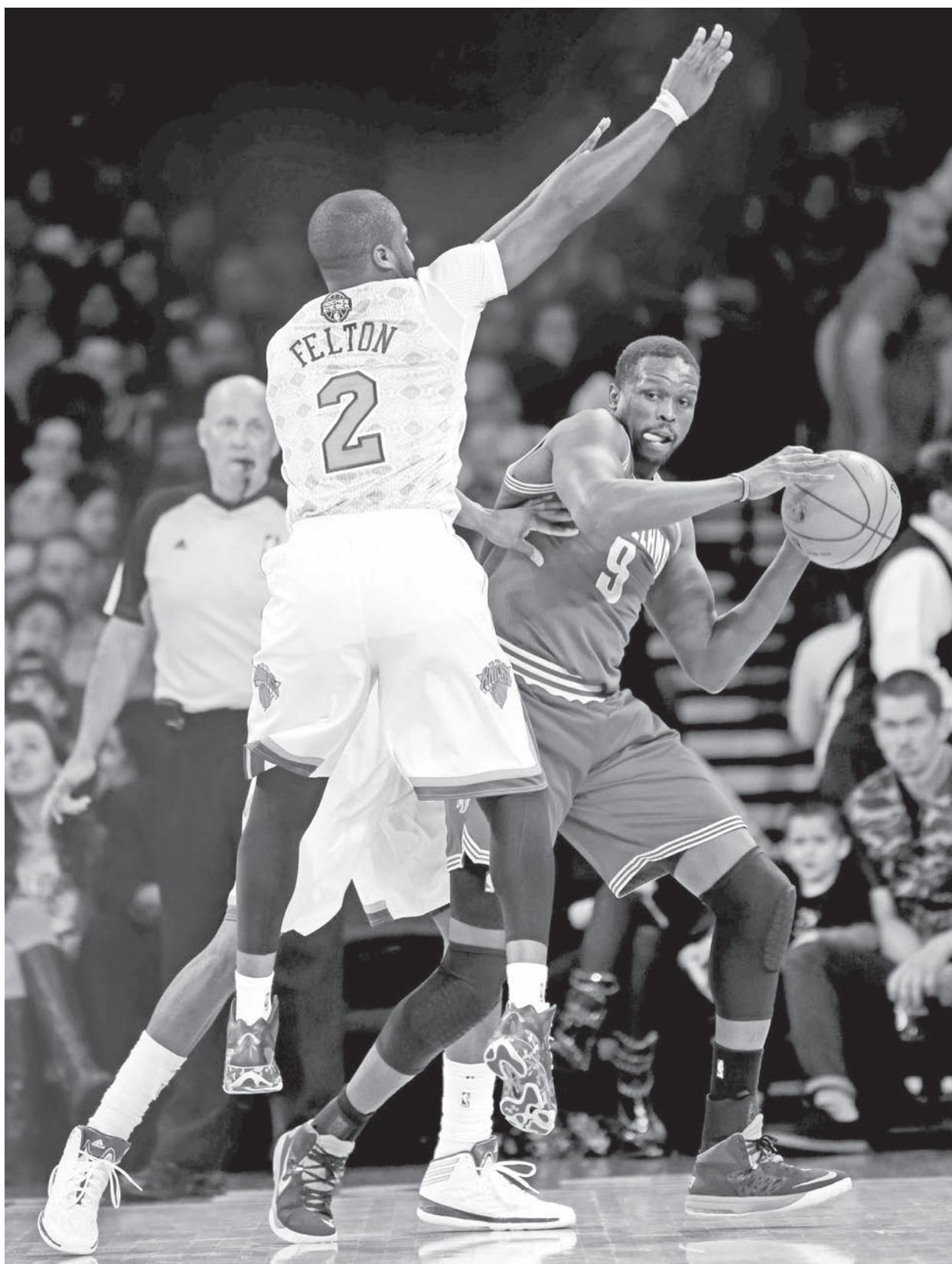
"I just challenged them. That's all. I didn't say that much," Brown said. "The guys in the locker room, they decided to go play and they went out and got it done."

New York was missing ailing Iman Shumpert, their best perimeter defender who surely would've gotten a chance to defend Jack since nobody else could.

The Knicks, who suddenly were back in the playoff race after looking out of it after a seven-game skid dropped them to 21-40 after a loss in Detroit on March 3, will have to bounce back on the road.

The Hawks had already lost at Toronto by the time the Knicks showed up for work Sunday. Coach Mike Woodson said he was glad but didn't appear overjoyed, realizing the Knicks still have plenty to do to get to the 35 to 40 wins he thinks will be necessary to earn a playoff spot.

"It's good that they lose, but again, it's about what we do at this point,"



Cleveland Cavaliers' Luol Deng, right, tries to pass around New York Knicks' Raymond Felton, left, and Tim Hardaway Jr. during the first half of an NBA basketball game at Madison Square Garden, Sunday, March 23, 2014, in New York.

Woodson said before the game.

Even getting to 35 wins will be difficult considering they still have games against Miami and Chicago, plus two apiece against Brooklyn and Toronto after their trip.

New York made 15 of 21 shots (71 percent) in the first quarter, getting 14 points from Anthony and taking a 34-27 lead when Smith made a 28-footer with 0.2 seconds left. The Knicks pushed the lead to 17 in the second when Pablo Prigioni made a 3-pointer, then stole the ball and threw an alley-oop pass that Smith slammed down to finish off a fast break and make it 51-34.

But down 61-46 at halftime, Cleveland scored the first nine of the second half to get within six, and the Knicks never really got the momentum back.

The Cavs used an 11-4 spurt to tie it at 90 on Jack's jumper with 7:29 remaining, then Deng's 3-pointer gave them a 93-92 edge with 5:46 to play.

Anthony's free throws gave the Knicks their last lead, but Jack knocked down a jumper, Waiters made a 3-pointer and Anderson Varejao had an easy dunk after a pick-and-roll to make it 100-94 with 2:37 remaining.

New York cut it to two, but Jack answered with another jumper, finishing two points shy of his career high.

Smith finished with 18 points.

Suns 127, Timberwolves 120

In Minneapolis, Markieff Morris scored 25 points off the bench to lead Phoenix to its biggest comeback of the season.

Phoenix trailed by 22 in the first half, but shot a season-high 57 percent from the floor to overcome Kevin Love's 36 points and 14 rebounds. Love fell an assist short of a triple-double and committed a crucial turnover in the final minute.

With the game tied at 118, Love lost the ball in the paint and Eric Bledsoe made a fast-break layup.

Gerald Green, Bledsoe and P.J. Tucker each hit a pair of free throws in the closing seconds to help the Suns pull within a half-game of Memphis and Dallas for one of the last two playoff spots in the tight Western Conference.

The Suns tied a season high by allowing 41 points in the first quarter and trailed 103-93 heading in the final period, but they outscored the Wolves 34-17 in the fourth. Minnesota, meanwhile, blew its largest lead of the season.

Raptors 96, Hawks 86

In Toronto, Kyle Lowry scored 25 points and Jonas Valanciunas had 13 points and 13 rebounds as Toronto beat Atlanta.

DeMar DeRozan scored 21 points, Greivis Vasquez had 12 and Terrence Ross 10 as the Raptors avoided their first three-game home losing streak since dropping games against Brooklyn, Miami and Denver between Nov. 26 and Dec. 1. Toronto fell in double-overtime to Oklahoma City on Friday and lost to Phoenix last Sunday.

Lowry, who had 13 points as Toronto erased an 11-point deficit in the fourth quarter, has scored 19 points or more in a career-high nine consecutive games.

DeMarre Carroll and Paul Millsap each scored 17 as the Hawks lost their second straight following a five-game winning streak.

Atlanta failed to win a third straight road game after losing its previous 10 away from home.

Nuggets 105, Wizards 102

In Denver, Kenneth Faried had 20 points and Aaron Brooks hit four straight free throws in the final 12 sec-

onds, helping injury-riddled Denver hold off Washington.

Randy Foye added 17 for a Nuggets team that was missing J.J. Hickson, who suffered a torn ligament in his right knee Friday. Wilson Chandler also didn't play (strained left hip) and Jan Vesely didn't return after bruising his rib cage late in the third quarter.

Bradley Beal scored 21 points as the Wizards wrapped up a four-game Western road swing with a 1-3 record. Trevor Ariza scored 15 of his 18 points in the first quarter and John Wall added 15, but also had eight turnovers.

Hickson was the latest player to be lost by the Nuggets. They were already without Danilo Gallinari (left ACL), JaVale McGee (broken tibia) and Nate Robinson (left ACL), who all have undergone season-ending operations.

Kings 124, Bucks 107

In Sacramento, California, DeMarcus Cousins had 32 points and 12 rebounds and Isaiah Thomas had 30 points and eight assists in Sacramento's victory that sent Milwaukee to its seventh straight loss.

Cousins made 14 of 19 shots, four of six free throws and added four assists and two steals.

The Kings demonstrated early they would not be overlooking the struggling Bucks. Sacramento led by 23 points after one quarter, took a 70-44 lead into halftime, and were ahead by 34 points after three quarters.

Rudy Gay had 24 points and eight rebounds and Ben McLemore scored 15 points for the Kings, who had dropped four of their past five home games against the Bucks.

O.J. Mayo scored 21 points for Milwaukee.

Nets 107, Mavericks 104, OT

In Dallas, Joe Johnson scored 22 points, including the tying layup in regulation and the go-ahead 3-pointer in overtime to lead Brooklyn past the Mavericks in Jason Kidd's return to Dallas as a coach.

The Nets swept the two-game season series with Dallas in their first year under Kidd, who spent his 41st birthday on the floor where he was essentially the coach at point guard when the Mavericks won the 2011 NBA title.

Marcus Thornton had 11 of his 20 points in the fourth quarter for the Nets, who won their fourth straight game and beat a Western Conference team for the fifth straight time.

Monta Ellis led Dallas with 32 points, but Dirk Nowitzki finished with 10 on one of his toughest shooting nights of the season.

Lakers 103, Magic 94

In Los Angeles, Jordan Hill had a career-high 28 points along with 13 rebounds in his first start in over nine weeks and Los Angeles sent Orlando to its ninth straight loss.

Nick Young scored 26 points off the bench, helping the Lakers end a four-game skid. Pau Gasol had six points in 18 minutes, and sat out the second half after feeling nauseous and dizzy.

Steve Nash did not play, two days after recording 11 assists in 19 minutes off the bench against Washington. He had missed the previous 15 games because of chronic nerve damage in his back.

Orlando point guard Victor Oladipo had 21 points and 10 assists in his eighth career start.

Kentucky ends Wichita State's perfect run, 78-76



ST. LOUIS (AP) — John Calipari stood frozen on the Kentucky sideline. Every player on the Wichita State bench held his breath. Everything seemed to stop inside the Scottrade Center as Fred VanVleet let loose with a 3-pointer that could have kept the Shockers perfect.

When it bounced harmlessly off the rim, everything was set in motion once again.

Calipari spontaneously leaped into the air, bad hip and all, as the eighth-seeded Wildcats poured off their bench to celebrate their 78-76 victory over the Midwest Region's top seed.

The boys from Wichita State slumped to their seats, their faces buried in their jerseys.

"I've been doing this so long. I've been in wars," Calipari said later. "You all understand this was an Elite Eight game. The winner of this should have gone to the Final Four."

It certainly had that kind of drama.

Andrew Harrison had 20 points, Aaron Harrison had 19 and Julius Randle contributed 13 points and 10 rebounds for the Wildcats (26-10), who advanced to play bitter rival Louisville on Friday in Indianapolis, at long last looking like the preseason No. 1 team in the country.

Cleanthony Early scored 31 points and Ron Baker had 20 for the Shockers (35-1), who hadn't lost since last year's Final Four while taking an entire city—and state—on quite a ride.

"You're going to go through some humps in your life, kind of like this one. It's tough to see us go out like this," Baker said. "At the end of the day, someone's got to go home."

The showdown Sunday matched the bluest of the blue-bloods, the most successful program in Division I history with eight national titles, against a gritty bunch upstarts from Wichita State that was trying to become the first team to finish off a perfect season since Indiana in 1976.

The game went back and forth the entire way, Kentucky finally taking a 73-71 lead when James Young knocked down a 3-pointer with less than 2 minutes to go. Early answered with a basket for Wichita State, and Andrew Harrison made two free throws for Kentucky. Baker banked in a 3 for the Shockers, and Randle made two more foul shots for the Wildcats.

"Both teams were making plays," Wichita State coach Gregg Marshall said later, his voice sounding tired. "Back and forth, back and forth."

Early's two free throws with 9.8 seconds left got the Shockers within 77-76, and they got their chance to add another chapter to their miraculous story when Andrew Harrison made the second of two free throws and Early pulled down the rebound.

VanVleet raced up court and called timeout with 3.2 seconds left.

Marshall drew up a play that had Tekele Cotton inbounding the ball to VanVleet, and after a couple dribbles he took a shot from the top of the key. But it was wide the entire way, clanking off the rim and sending the Wildcats pouring onto the court to celebrate.

"We just felt so good beating a great team," said Andrew Harrison, who considered sitting the game out after hurting his elbow in a second-round win over Kansas State. "It shows how



AP

Wichita State guard Fred VanVleet (23) leaves the floor after missing a three-point attempt in the final seconds against Kentucky during the second half of a third-round game of the NCAA college basketball tournament Sunday, March 23, 2014, in St. Louis.

much work we've put in, how much we're getting better."

Kentucky was successful early using its superior size, not only in the paint but also on the perimeter, where the 6-foot-6 Harrison twins dwarfed the 5-11 VanVleet. But after the Wildcats took a 19-15 lead midway through the half, Wichita State ramped up its trademark defense, forcing a series of turnovers and getting right back in the game.

VanVleet was the catalyst. On one sequence late in the half, he stripped Aaron Harrison and hit Early in transition, and he was fouled slamming over 7-foot Willie Cauley-Stein. Early made the free throw as the Shockers built a 37-31 lead at the half.

"I just feel like I'm always there when my team needs me," said Early, who was the breakout star of the Shockers' Final Four run a year ago. "We feed off each other in positive ways."

Early hit another 3-pointer right out of the locker room to match the Shockers' biggest lead at 40-31. But VanVleet picked up his third foul moments later, and Kentucky took advantage of the Shockers missing their floor general by gradually pulling ahead.

"I would have liked to have been a little more aggressive," VanVleet said. "We had to switch some matchups at the end because of my foul trouble. It's hard to play like that."

The game remained a back-and-forth prizefight the rest of the way, neither team leading by more than five, each

answering the other with clutch 3-pointers and pressure-filled free throws.

It only made sense that the game would come down to the final possession.

"I feel for their team and I feel for their coach," Calipari said. "I'm happy we won. I'm happy for our guys. And I'm disappointed, because they had a heck of a run."

No. 10 Stanford 60, No. 2 Kansas 57

In St. Louis, Kansas knows all about Stanford now.

The Cardinal couldn't deny a slight at a news conference a day earlier fueled them just a bit before pulling their second—and much bigger—upset of the NCAA tournament.

Kansas freshmen Andrew Wiggins and Wayne Selden Jr. ducked their heads and giggled Saturday when asked about Chasson Randle, Stanford's leading scorer.

"We definitely saw that video," Randle said Sunday, after the No. 10 seed Cardinal beat the second-seeded Jayhawks, 60-57, to advance to the Sweet 16 in the South Regional. "Coach told me not to talk about it but I definitely took it as a challenge. It was a little big extra motivation."

Enough for the Cardinal to make the Jayhawks the second No. 2 seed to be knocked out of this tournament in the third round and enough for them to reach the round of 16 for the first time since 2008.

Wiggins was held to four points on

1-for-6 shooting in what could have been his final college game. He accepted his share of the responsibility for the loss.

"I let a lot of people down," Wiggins said. "If I would have played better, we wouldn't be in this situation, you know? I blame myself for this."

No. 4 UCLA 77, No. 12 Stephen F. Austin 60

In San Diego, Jordan Adams scored 19 points and UCLA beat Stephen F. Austin to reach the Sweet 16 of the NCAA tournament for the first time since 2008.

The fourth-seeded Bruins (27-8) will play Florida, the tournament's overall top seed, in the South Regional semifinals on Thursday in Memphis. First-year coach Steve Alford has won as many NCAA tournament games in three days as the Bruins had in the previous five seasons combined.

Alford replaced Ben Howland, who was fired a year ago after the Bruins lost to Minnesota in their NCAA tournament opener. This is UCLA's first trip to the regionals since Howland got the Bruins to their third straight Final Four in 2008.

Stephen F. Austin (32-2), the No. 12 seed, had its 29-game winning streak snapped. The Lumberjacks hadn't lost in exactly four months.

No. 11 Tennessee 83, No. 14 Mercer 63

In Raleigh, N.C., Jarnell Stokes had 17 points and a career-high-tying 18 re-

bounds, and Tennessee denied Mercer a second straight upset in the NCAA tournament.

Josh Richardson had a career-high 26 points and Antonio Barton added 18 for the 11th-seeded Vols (24-12), who outrebounded Mercer 41-19 and kept the Southeastern Conference perfect in the tournament.

They joined Florida and Kentucky in the round of 16 — the first time three SEC teams made it that far since 2007.

Tennessee will face second-seeded Michigan (27-8) in a Midwest Regional semifinal Friday night in Indianapolis.

Langston Hall had 15 points to lead the 14th-seeded Bears (27-9), who beat Duke in the signature upset of the tournament but couldn't answer Tennessee's size.

No. 3 Iowa State 85, No. 6 North Carolina 83

In San Antonio, DeAndre Kane drove for the game-winning layup with 1.6 seconds left and No. 3 seed Iowa State advanced to the Sweet 16 for the first time since 2000.

The Cyclones (28-7) head to Madison Square Garden next week to face No. 7 seed Connecticut in the East Regional semifinals.

The Tar Heels (24-10) are gone in the NCAA tournament's opening weekend for the first time in consecutive seasons under coach Roy Williams.

North Carolina's Nate Britt raced the ball up court after Kane's basket, but time expired before he could reach halfcourt and call a timeout. Officials huddled for several minutes reviewing clock replays before ruling the game was over.

Marcus Paige led the Tar Heels with 19 points.

No. 1 Virginia 78, No. 8 Memphis 60

In Raleigh, N.C., Joe Harris scored 16 points and top-seeded Virginia shot 56 percent to beat Memphis, earning its first trip to the NCAA tournament round of 16 in nearly two decades.

Anthony Gill added 13 points for the Cavaliers (30-6), who turned in a dominating performance while controlling the tempo and shutting down the eighth-seeded Tigers (24-10) at nearly every turn.

Virginia led by 15 at halftime and pushed that to 27 points late, picking right up where it left off in its strong finish to Friday's tournament-opening win against Coastal Carolina.

No. 6 Baylor 85, No. 3 Creighton 55

In San Antonio, Isaiah Austin and Brady Heslip each scored 17 points and Baylor shut down Creighton's Doug McDermott with suffocating defense, ending the career of the one of the most prolific scorers in college history in the NCAA tournament's West Regional.

Baylor's size and speed overwhelmed the third-seeded Bluejays (27-8) and their national scoring leader, earning a third trip to the Sweet 16 since 2010.

McDermott, who averaged 27 points this season, finished with 15 but had just three in the first half as Baylor built a 20-point lead. McDermott ranks fifth on the NCAA career scoring list. No. 6 seed Baylor (26-11) had five players score in double figures and shot 64 percent in one of the dominant performances of the NCAA tournament.

Every rallies for 1st tour win at Bay Hill



ORLANDO, Fla. (AP)—Matt Every is finally a winner on the PGA Tour, and he's still not sure how it happened.

He was nine shots behind Masters champion Adam Scott going into the weekend at Bay Hill. He was still four back of the Australian he referred to as a "stud" going into the final round Sunday at the Arnold Palmer Invitational.

Every figured even par over the last three holes would do the trick. He made two bogeys.

Even after a hearty handshake from the tournament host and a shiny trophy an arm's length away from, Every summed up this wild day with just the right words.

"I ... I ... I can't believe I won," he said. "I just ... I really can't."

The tee shot that he feared might be out-of-bounds on No. 9 somehow bounced along a cart path and led to an unlikely birdie. He surged to a three-shot lead when Scott's touch with the putter vanished. Even with two bogeys on the last three holes—he missed a 4-foot par putt on the 18th—Every still closed with a 2-under 70.

The last bogey made him sweat out the finish. Keegan Bradley, who birdied the 16th and 17th holes, had a 30-foot birdie putt on the 18th that would have forced a playoff. It was similar to the putt Tiger Woods has made so often to win at Bay Hill. Bradley's putt stayed left of the hole, and he finished one shot behind.

Every finished at 13-under 275, one shot ahead of Bradley, who needed two late birdies for a 72. Scott was third.

In his 92nd start as a pro on the PGA Tour, Every finally won at just the right time and just the right place.

The 30-year-old who grew up 90 minutes away in Daytona Beach used to come to Bay Hill as a kid to watch the tournament. And he beat the Masters champion to earn his own spot in the Masters next month.

"Being close to winning out here, it can be kind of discouraging because if you don't win, you just wonder if it's ever going to happen," Every said.



Matt Every holds the trophy after winning the Arnold Palmer Invitational golf tournament at Bay Hill, Sunday, March 23, 2014, in Orlando, Fla.

"And sometimes you tell yourself, 'Well, maybe it's meant to be somewhere else, somewhere better.' I don't see how it could get much better than this—being so close to where I grew up and all the fans out there that were cheering me on. It was awesome."

It was a nightmare for Scott.

He shattered the Bay Hill record by taking a seven-shot lead after 36 holes and still led by three shots over Bradley going into Sunday. His putting stroke betrayed him. Scott made only five bogeys over 54 holes. He made five on Sunday alone. And he didn't make a

bogey over the last 14 holes for a 76.

"I'm annoyed that I didn't do better today," Scott said. "Sometimes you've got to be hard on yourself. Sometimes you don't. And I think I was getting into a really good spot, and an opportunity here to run away with an event and really take a lot of confidence. I'm taking confidence anyway, from just some good play. But some opportunities you've got to take."

Cocky by nature, Every choked back tears when he realized he had won.

"It's hard," he said, stopping to compose himself. "It's tough, man.

the four-team field.

The defending champions won the exchange in the first three innings and then shut out the Fielders in the last four en route to the easy win.

The Padres got eight runs in the first three innings against only two from the Fielders. Relief pitcher A.J. Lizama had a two-run single in the second inning, while second baseman Ray Tenorio had back-to-back RBI singles in the

first two innings. The four other runs were courtesy of Thomas Reyes' RBI singles in the first and third and off a wild pitch and passed ball.

The Fielders also got a run off a passed ball in the first inning, while the other was made in the third off the Tenorio's error. Last year's runners-up went on to struggle against starting pitcher Lancaster Secharmidal and the rest of the Padres defense in the

You just never know if it's going to happen. You get there so many times. It's nice to get it done."

He made it hard on himself.

Every had a three-shot lead on the par-5 16th hole—the easiest at Bay Hill—when he drove into the woods, hit a tree trying to pitch out, laid up short of the water to play it safe and had to grind out a bogey. Scott, playing in the final group behind him, drilled 6-iron to 20 feet for an eagle putt that would have tied him for the lead.

He three-putted for par.

It was the second time in six tournaments that Scott lost a big lead on the last day. He had a four-shot advantage in the Australian Open and lost on the final hole to Rory McIlroy. This time, he didn't even have a realistic chance playing the 18th.

"I really think the putting has let me down on both of those occasions," Scott said. "Today was a bit shaky. But this course was asking a lot of everyone today, and my short game just wasn't there. So that needs to be tightened up and probably shows that I need to do a bit more work on it to hold up under the pressure."

Scott finished alone in third. He had to win Bay Hill to reach No. 1 in the world ranking when he arrived at Augusta National. Now, the No. 1 spot that Woods has held for the last year will be up for grabs at the Masters among Woods, Scott and Henrik Stenson, who tied for fifth at Bay Hill.

Until Sunday, about the only time Every made news on the PGA Tour was when he was arrested and jailed on a misdemeanor drug possession charge at the 2010 John Deere Classic after agents were called to a casino hotel because of a strong odor of marijuana coming from the room he was in.

Every paid the price with a three-month suspension that kept him from retaining his PGA Tour card. He once said earning his card back was his greatest achievement, though that sure takes a seat back to his win at Bay Hill.

"It's just cool that I can say that I won on the PGA Tour," Every said. "But I always felt like my game was plenty good enough to win out here."

next three innings. Secharmidal had five strikeouts in his last three-inning shift and stranded two runners, while his teammates caught five fly balls. Lizama came in for Secharmidal at the top of the last inning and got the job done with two early strikeouts. The Fielders were called for the quick three outs when Padres shortstop Steven Cabrera caught a fly ball from the former's third batter.

defeated her competitors after knocking down 820 pinfalls. She had the best single game score in the entire tournament (including the men's field) after recording 264 in Game 3. Mersai's tallied 191, 166, and 199 in the three other games to average 205.

Diane Camacho dropped to second with her Day 2 score of 735 pinfalls (178, 189, 156, and 212), while Fabie rounded out the Top 3 after earning 703 (165, 193, 168, and 144) in the second day.

Omechelang fell to fourth place, followed by Villavicencio (657), Carrie Camacho (652), Cal, Gigi Zapanta (624), Gina Sablan (620), Elena Soll (611), and Hannah Choi (607).

ENFORCERS

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reach home off Flores' sacrifice fly at leftfield.

BIG LEAGUE

Padres 9, Fielders 2

In the lone Big League match last Thursday, the Padres (7-2) dominated the Fielders to regain the top spot in

MERSAI

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three-time monthly champion was the lone bowler in the men's field to score at least 800 pinfalls and averaged 200 (222), as Day 1 leader and eventual runner-up Simon Manacop collected only 783 pinfalls in Day 2.

Manacop, who had 746 pinfalls (211, 216, 132, and 187) last Saturday to take the temporary lead, returned for the Sunday competition and had his best showing in Game 4, tallying 239 pinfalls. However, he only registered 180s in the first three games (189, 184, and 180) to settle for the runner-up honors with his 195.75 average.

Joining Talavera and Manacop in the Top 3 was Percy Omechelang, who bowled both days and had his Day 2 score (750 pinfalls) making the grade. He got off to a strong start, gathering 207 pinfalls in Game 1, but failed to sustain it after dropping to 159 pinfalls in Game 2. Omechelang went on to post 185 and 199 in the last two games for a total of 750 pinfalls and average of 187.50.

Fourteen other male bowlers joined the March roll-offs. The list includes Lito Teodoro (731), Raymond Zapanta (714), Edgar Abalos (704), Lee Wong Yon (701), Ronald Batac (701), Raymond Angeles (699), Paul Pangalinan (683), Jae Yong Kim (669), Jorge

Soledad (656), Ador Dimaano (633), Raphael Zapanta (629), Tony Verdaguer (626), Ben Aizon (583), and Jerry Kaneshi (536).

In the Queen of the Lanes, Mersai duplicated Talavera's three straight monthly wins after beating 11 other female bowlers in the weekend competition.

Mersai made a big leap, moving from fifth to first place after the two-day competition. She had only 630 pinfalls in Day 1 to fall behind Diana Camacho (703), Gloria Omechelang (660), Ron Cal (637), and Yho Villavicencio (634).

All five came back at SBC for the Sunday's event and this time Mersai

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Toronto	39	30	.565	—
Brooklyn	37	31	.544	1 1/2
New York	29	41	.414	10 1/2
Boston	23	47	.329	16 1/2
Philadelphia	15	55	.214	24 1/2

Southeast Division

x-Miami	47	21	.691	—
Washington	36	34	.514	12
Charlotte	34	36	.486	14
Atlanta	31	37	.456	16
Orlando	19	52	.268	29 1/2

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

x-San Antonio	53	16	.768	—
Houston	47	22	.681	6
Memphis	41	28	.594	12
Dallas	42	29	.592	12
New Orleans	29	40	.420	24

Northwest Division

Oklahoma City	51	18	.739	—
Portland	45	25	.643	6 1/2
Minnesota	34	34	.500	16 1/2
Denver	32	38	.457	19 1/2
Utah	23	47	.329	28 1/2

Pacific Division

L.A. Clippers	49	21	.700	—
Golden State	44	27	.620	5 1/2
Phoenix	41	29	.586	8
Sacramento	25	45	.357	24
L.A. Lakers	23	46	.333	25 1/2

x-clinched playoff spot

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TENORIO

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Bravo, and Seung Mok You. James McAllister is the team's coach and is assisted by Chris Park. May Ling Co-lombo and Angelina Villagomez are the co-team managers.

MP United started its bid in the Pacific Ocean Cup with a loss to FC Hamamuka (scores were unavailable) and then swept its last three games (versus Yamanakako FC and hosts Vivid Blue A and B) to place second in the one-day tournament.

"Our players played great and gave their all. The overall MVP for the Cup is our very own Sun Joon Perry Tenorio. Everyone played beyond expectations and showed awesome sportsmanship. They ended their final night having dinner at a restaurant with the players and families of our sister team Vivid Blue. Today (yesterday) they will be traveling to Tokyo Disneyland to spend the entire day before heading to Narita late in the afternoon for their flight home," Joseph Villagomez stated in an email forward to Izuka and parents of all players.

The MP United players, coaches, and officials were scheduled to arrive early this morning and are expected to return to practice in a few days as they will also complete in the second leg of the Pacific Ocean Cup.

MP United will host this weekend's (March 30) Pacific Ocean Cup 4 and this time Vivid Blue will bring its U12 team to Saipan to compete against its sister club and two others—Shirley's Football Club and Tinian Premier Football Club. The host club is fielding two teams in the tournament that will take place at the Koblerville Elementary School Field from 9:30am to 4pm.

SSC International Swim Meet Part 1

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO



A Saipan Swim Club female swimmer waits for the start of the 50m freestyle race in last Saturday's 2014 SSC International Invitational Swim Meet at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool.



Tsunami Saipan's Mark Maestro nears completion of the 50m breaststroke swim.



Saipan Swim Club's David Boyer leads a Guam swimmer during the 50m breaststroke race.



Three young swimmers wait for the start of their race.

A spectator snaps a shot of the swimmers at the starting block.



Three swimmers jump from the starting block during the 50m butterfly race.



A Marshall Islands swimmer adjusts his cap.



Tsunami Saipan's Kaito Yanai helps fix his teammate's swim cap.



Saipan Swim Club's Victoria Chentsova leads a Guam swimmer in the 400m freestyle race.



Kentucky ends
Wichita State's
perfect run, 78-76

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Saipan Tribune Sports

Jack, Cavs snap
Knicks' 8-game
win streak

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Enforcers hand Red Sox first loss

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The Red Sox kissed their bid for a perfect regular season goodbye, as the JPO Enforcers whipped the Senior League leader, 16-3, last Saturday in the 2014 Saipan Little League Baseball at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.


The Enforcers caught the Red Sox flatfooted in the last three innings to end the latter's seven-game winning streak. They faced anew in an early rematch yesterday afternoon with the Enforcers threatening to make it two in row, leading at 4-1 after four innings. Final results of the game were unavailable at press time.

Holding a manageable 3-0 lead, a six-run top of the fifth gave the Enforcers more cushion, as they capitalized on the erratic Red Sox. The Enforcers got their first three runs in the fifth off the Red Sox's miscues and the last from another error. The two other runs were courtesy of a wild pitch and a sacrifice fly.

The Red Sox also scored off the Enforcers' defensive lapses at the bottom fifth, but bagged only two runs. The Enforcers then racked up three more runs off the Red Sox's booboo in the sixth, while the last four runs were all earned and recorded in the seventh. The Red Sox countered with only one



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

JPO Enforcers' shortstop Verlance Secharmidal picks up a grounder from a Red Sox batter during their Senior League game yesterday in the 2014 Saipan Little League Baseball at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

Tenorio wins MVP; MPU gets runner-up honors

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER


MP United's Sun Joon Tenorio bagged the MVP award in the Pacific Ocean Cup 3, while the club's U12 team gained the runner-honors in last Sunday's tournament in Japan.

According to an email MP United Football Club president Vickie Izuka sent to *Saipan Tribune* yesterday, Tenorio took the coveted award for scoring the most goals (six) in the four-team competition held in Inno Gotemba in Shizuoka. Also scoring goals for MP United were Jon and Gillian Villagomez, while other members of the team are Francesca Bucalig, Maaya Sato, Maury Zon Tybaco, Geon Ho Lee, Daniele Colombo, Eun Syu Hahn, Edwin Kim, Steven Goodwin, Christian

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

MP United FC's Sun Joon Tenorio, third from left, joins his teammate and Vivid Blue FC players for a photo before participating in a drill last Saturday in Inno Gotemba in Shizuoka, Japan.

Mersai, Talavera on a roll

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER


Robert Talavera and Kathy Mersai extended their streak in Saipan Bowling Association's Budweiser King and Queen of the Lanes Tournament to three after winning the March roll-offs held over the weekend at the Saipan Bowling Center.

Talavera, who finished second in the opening day of the weekend tournament with his 727 pinfalls, showed consistency in Day 2 of the monthly tournament, posting 200-plus pinfalls in all four games. He started last Sunday's roll-off with 211 pinfalls before recording 215, 246, and 216 in the last three for a four-game total of 888 pinfalls. The

See MERSAI on Page 26



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Kathy Mersai, left, and Robert Talavera show their prizes for winning the Budweiser-SBA March roll-offs last Sunday at the Saipan Bowling Center.